

# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XLIII.—No. 1096.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5th, 1918.

PRICE ONE SHILLING, POSTAGE EXTRA.  
[REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.]



ADMIRAL SIR ROSSLYN ERSKINE WEMYSS, K.C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O.  
*From a drawing by Francis Dodd, one of the Official British Artists.*



# COUNTRY LIFE

OFFICES:

20, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. 2.

VOL. XLIII. No. 1096.

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# COUNTRY LIFE

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OFFICES: 20, TAVISTOCK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

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## EDITORIAL NOTICE

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## A STRENUOUS YEAR

BEFORE these pages are in the hands of the reader 1918 will have made its entrance—a guest not sure of the welcome accorded its predecessors, yet not deserving any rebuff. The manly British habit is to prepare for the worst that may happen and not indulge in visions of a possible best. He who bends his mind and energy to face untoward conditions will be the better prepared to take advantage of unexpected luck. It would be idle to paint in glowing colours the months that are to come. Every year that the war lasts naturally increases its burden. And the great consideration towards the end of such a contest as that in which we are now engaged must be the civilisation and humanity attained during two thousand years of progress. Those who most fully recognise

that the horrors of war are not without compensation know also that when host is opposed to host for the purpose of killing, and that when one murderous invention is followed by another, danger exists that the nations may relapse into the barbarian darkness from which they have emerged. Tenderness, pity, all that is loveliest and most comely in human nature, do not thrive in ruthless warfare. We are threatened with retrogression to a point at which we were five hundred years ago, unless there is a kindling of spirit and an uprising of heart in determination that the Powers of Darkness shall not wholly prevail. It is not wholly an evil that wrath has been engendered, provided it be a righteous wrath. And what could be more righteous than the determination that the gospel of frightfulness shall not prevail?

Foes to whom defeat carries as much as it does to the Germans will make superhuman efforts to escape it. What does it mean to them? National bankruptcy is the least they have to expect. A Colonial Empire has been lost, a world-wide trade has gone; with prestige reduced to the vanishing point, how could they hope to recover their lost position? Yet the contingency indicated has been described by their own prophets. It would be to misunderstand them sadly were we to imagine that they will be unnerved by the outlook. On the contrary, they will summon to their aid every spark of the grim tenacity, the refusal to believe themselves beaten, which they share with us, a kindred race. The year on which we are entering will probably witness the hardest fighting of the war. Our soldiers may be depended upon to give it a grim welcome: but them we are thinking of less than those at home. "If the civilians keep their end up," is what the soldier thinks and says. It behoves us at home, then, to steel our nerves. German military leaders believe in "rattling" the home population. While army strives against army they will always be able to detach parties to worry the home-dweller, either from the air or the sea, as that is their accredited way of producing an atmosphere favourable to peace. To make London uninhabitable is one of their avowed aims, and the Londoner therefore must undismayedly reckon on air raids. He knows how much the defences have been improved, but he must also reckon on the certainty that now and then a raider may succeed in getting past the defences.

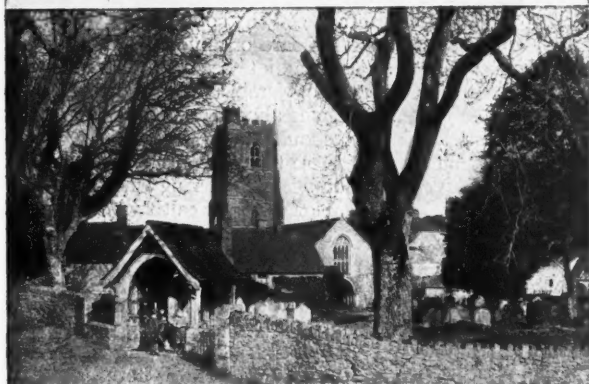
The year 1918 will be remarkable as opening while the cleverest and most unscrupulous dodge was being tried by the Germans for the purpose of placing the Entente Powers in a predicament. Their agreement with Russia to accept a peace without annexations and without indemnities was charged with the condition that not Russia alone, but her Allies also should accept this settlement. To do so would obviously be suicidal on their part. It would be all very well for Germany to scuttle out of Belgium at the present moment, holding on to all the loot she has accumulated during her occupation of that territory, and rejoicing at being exempt from paying for the thefts, outrages and murders which she has committed there. The Allies, of course, are unanimous in rejecting the offer, but probably they will have to go a step further. Russia's surrender of all claim to Constantinople can only be with great danger accepted as the wish of the people. It is rather the cry of a few Socialist Extremists, who in all human probability will be swept away by the tide of events. Then comes a day when the real Russia learns that she is debarred from possessing a port with warm water, that she is closed in on the Baltic and, in fact, cramped and fettered in every possible way. The only result from that would be that she would begin at once to plan for winning back the lost territory, and therefore Europe in a few years would once more be face to face with the conditions that exist to-day. We cannot believe that any statesmen of the Allied countries will, upon thinking, allow such a contingency to arise. They cannot do so if they, as President Wilson says, are fighting for peace.

## Our Frontispiece

OUR frontispiece this week is from a drawing of Admiral Sir Rosslyn Erskine Wemyss, K.C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., who, as First Sea Lord, succeeds Sir John Jellicoe at the Admiralty. Sir Rosslyn Wemyss, who was appointed an Extra Equerry to H.M. King George in 1910, served in the Dardanelles (despatches, K.C.B., Legion of Honour), and was married in 1903 to Victoria, only daughter of the late Right Hon. Sir Robert Morier.

\* \* \* It is particularly requested that no permissions to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted except when direct application is made from the offices of the paper.

## COUNTRY NOTES



SIR JOHN COWANS, Quartermaster-General of the Army, has earned a claim on the gratitude of his countrymen for the ready intelligence with which he grasped the idea of establishing British Military Gardens in France and the promptitude with which he worked out a practical application of the idea. His efforts were vigorously backed up by the Army Council and supported by Sir Douglas Haig. The Food Production Department of the Board of Agriculture, under the energetic guidance of Sir Arthur Lee, has collaborated with the happiest results. Only six weeks have passed since the appearance of two articles in our pages, one explaining what the French have done and are doing, the other pointing out the duty and the opportunity of the British Army, and already preparations are well advanced for cultivating vegetable produce for the use of the British troops close to the British lines. The region chosen for the purpose lies in the neighbourhood of Peronne and Bapaume, land given up by the Germans in the famous Somme retreat. Frenchmen regard it as some of the best wheat land in their country, yet much of it is lying waste, growing nothing but thistles. After the resumption of it by our Allies very few of the occupiers or owners returned. Many had suffered from the misfortunes of war, some were killed, some were captured, others described as missing, many have vanished without record. Such inhabitants as were left on the land the Germans carried away and dispersed.

AS we have maintained would be the case, no serious difficulty has arisen about obtaining land. In order to secure crops in 1918 it will be necessary, directly the year has turned, to start cultivation with the plough. Sir Arthur Lee and his department have gone far to meet the requirements in this direction by offering to send 150 steam ploughs out from England. These will afford most valuable help. A plan of organisation has been submitted which looks simple and practical, though in one respect (to which we shall refer presently) it may be open to improvement. It is proposed to appoint a Director of Agricultural Production, who will rank as Brigadier-General; an Assistant Director, a Deputy Assistant Director, a Staff Captain, and six clerks. In addition to a similar staff, the French have a Committee of expert gardeners, who give advice in regard to matters of cultivation, such as choice of crops, seeds, manures and drainage. A similar body could be very easily got together from our Horticultural Society, and would be invaluable for giving technical advice. With this addition the scheme might be regarded as fairly complete and workable. Apparently the production is not to be confined to vegetables only, but to all crops serviceable for human food or forage.

THE work is described as that of developing agricultural production to the utmost within the zone occupied by the British Armies in France. Steps have also been taken to bring into being a similar organisation for the advancement of Military Agriculture in Great Britain. Subject to the condition that there must be no interference with military training, it is urged that the most strenuous efforts should be made to increase the land under cultivation in this country and to obtain the utmost possible production from it. Here, as in France, it is development that is needed as much as creation. Patches of land have already been cultivated for and by the troops, but a larger scheme has become advisable. Commanding Officers and all serving under them are urged to take the keenest personal interest in this matter of agricultural development. Troops are to be reminded that it

would be an act of patriotism on their part to devote their spare time to agricultural production. And here is a paragraph which will be more effective than exhortation. "Manure which exists in large quantities in many centres of the command should be utilised to the utmost. Where possible, military transport may be used for its conveyance." Already plans for some of the enclosures have been drawn up and there is good prospect of the work being got forward in the New Year. It may be mentioned also that other allied armies are following the same course. A Canadian officer informs us that the Canadians are preparing every possible inch of ground for crops. It is only what we expect from their shrewd, practical minds. Americans also, who have an ocean between them and the scene of the war, are noticing the great advantages which would follow, especially in the way of saving tonnage across the Atlantic.

AN interesting letter is published in another part of the paper over the initials "L. N. H. D." The writer tells of a military station where 105 acres were cultivated during 1917, but he makes a point that "This is all War Department land, and represents odd fields and bits of waste land here and there that formerly have been derelict." That in itself is a very satisfactory statement. It means that food has been raised on land previously lying waste. Further, this was done at a profit. Our correspondent says: "The net profits worked out at about £100 for each unit in the command." The vegetables grown included 400 tons of potatoes and many tons of other roots and vast quantities of green stuffs, of which there has been a continuous succession. The example affords an excellent augury of the success of the new Government plan. The only point on which we are inclined to dissent from our correspondent is his statement that it would prove uneconomical to take land for this purpose from agricultural tenants. That would entirely depend upon circumstances. If the tenant were raising the maximum of food from the ground already, it would obviously be a mistake to interfere with him, but if he were not doing so it would surely be much better to give the soldiers a chance.

## "EVERYWHERE A LITTLE CHILD."

Everywhere a little child  
Bursts triumphant from the wild.  
Whether woodland buds are breaking  
Deep asleep, or wide awaking,  
Everywhere its joyous feet  
Caper in the city street.

Hail thou tiny child of man  
Piping on the pipes of Pan!  
Hail! thou laughing leprechaun,  
Tiny, tailless, hoofless faun!  
Every gesture, every grace,  
Every pucker of thy face,  
Tells a tale of ages gone  
In the heart of man reborn.

Everywhere a little child  
Bursts triumphant from the wild.

ANNE F. BROWN.

MR. FRANK DILNOT has contributed to the *Daily Chronicle* a most interesting interview with Mr. Hoover, the head of the Food Administration in America. He lays it down, as did Mr. Prothero also on a recent occasion, as a basic fact that "there is not at present enough food being produced in the world to feed the world." Fortunately, the food producing capacity of America is practically unlimited, and it will be remembered that in the War of Independence production was actually increased there. Mr. Hoover put the situation in a nutshell when he said that the Allies want from 600,000,000 to 700,000,000 bushels of grain, instead of the pre-war amount of 120,000,000 bushels. The situation is being met in three ways. First, by stimulating production; secondly, by reducing consumption—the unselfish manner in which the Americans have consented to a greatly reduced style of living for the sake of their European Allies is a shining example to the rest of the world; and, thirdly, by cutting down the supplies America usually has sent to other countries. That is the situation in regard to grain, and it does not differ much from that with regard to meat. America has to export four times what she did before. It is a difficult position, because the number of consumers is increasing very rapidly in the United States, and exportation



appeared to be coming to a standstill before the war. The country is really making a great sacrifice in the self-restraint it has voluntarily imposed upon itself.

THE efforts of the United States are directed principally towards providing the Allies with the four essentials—wheat, meat, fats and sugar. Unfortunately, the wheat crop this year was 668,000,000 bushels, which is below the average. But it is hoped that next year it will be increased to 1,000,000,000 bushels. In order to produce fat hogs a minimum price has been fixed for a period only, and Mr. Hoover says: "There will be tremendous additions to the stocks of pigs in a short time, which will mean not only meat, but the all-important fats." In regard to sugar, every effort is being made to increase supplies and also to bring down consumption from the old average of 90lb. per person per year to 67lb. These are measures which promise well for the relief of the Allies in 1918.

THE methods adopted are not unlike those acted upon in this country. In the 200,000 public eating houses, hotels and restaurants there has been a wide acceptance of one wheatless day and one meatless day a week. Mr. Hoover points out that this involves not so much a privation as a change of habit. Chicken and fish are plentiful and cornmeal bread is a staple in the United States. Private families are being reached by canvassing. Two hundred thousand volunteer women workers are visiting households and personally urging the saving of food. Out of 17,000,000, households 12,000,000 have already signed cards promising co-operation. In regard to sugar, America is doing what we should have done at the beginning of the war; that is, curtailing the large consumption of sweets, or candies, as they are called. Enough sugar is used in candies to provide Britain with an entire war supply. Mr. Hoover began by stopping altogether the supply of sugar for this purpose, and now the factories are getting a rationed percentage.

A LITTLE clear and simple thinking should be brought to bear upon the food crisis and the methods of dealing with it. The convention of Labour on Saturday argued the matter out in a fair and reasonable spirit, and little fault can be found with anything that Mr. Clynes said in reply. But in none of the speeches was there much illumination. First, we should begin with understanding clearly that two causes are at work in producing the state of affairs with regard to food which we all regret. One, plainly said, is shortage of supply. The world is not growing all that the world needs to eat and, therefore, we must make the best of what we have. That, in a sentence, is the case for instituting a rationing system. The second reason is that the supplies we have are not adequately and equally distributed. The most flagrant case is that of potatoes. Abundant in the country, they are not so freely available in the town as to tempt the urban dwellers to substitute them for bread. The remedy for this would appear to be the appointment of a lieutenant to Lord Rhondda whose sole duty would be to take charge of the means of distribution. It would be no enviable task, because the necessities of the war have compelled the railway companies to send large portions of their rolling stock abroad, and have also diminished the number of their servants. Still, a clear-headed man might with thought and ingenuity manage to alleviate, if he could not altogether remedy, the vexatious muddle. Possibly he might find it useful to institute a flat rate for the conveyance of potatoes from the country to the town; a rate, that is to say, that would be as low as possible and uniform within well considered zones. It could not reasonably be expected that potatoes would be sent from Ayrshire to London at the same rate as from the Home Counties. Indeed, the Controller of Distribution would have to mind his feet if he did not wish to drop into a pitfall.

SIR JOHN SANDYS and Sir Arthur Evans will command the fullest sympathy for their protest against the attempt of the Air Board to turn the British Museum into offices. As Sir John says, it would be impossible to remove all the great treasures, and those left would certainly be damaged by ill usage "or burnt down perhaps by a cigarette-smoking staff." There can be no excuse for this official vandalism. No class of men in England at the present moment is held in more honour than our airmen. Their daring valour and enterprise have awakened an admiration to which words cannot do justice. If there were no other premises available except the British Museum, the nation might be called upon to sacrifice even that. But in point of fact there are many

buildings that can be utilised without the possibility of damage being done. For instance, there is Whitehall Court, immediately opposite the War Office. We believe only a single block, No. 4, is at present taken. Why could not these spacious rooms be utilised by the Air Board or any other great Service of the country? Surely it cannot be true that Whitehall Court is spared because nine Members of Parliament or so happen to live there. It seems almost an outrage to suggest that the Office of Works should base its objection on the trivial inconvenience that these tenants would suffer—trivial, that is to say, in comparison with interfering with the British Museum, "a treasure house of untold wealth whose name is to be found on almost every page of the story of the recovery of the past."

QUEEN ANNE'S MANSIONS is also ideally situated for an office of this kind. It lies in the very centre of official London, and is capable of housing the entire Ministry of Munitions. Yet, although every important hotel and club in the neighbourhood has been commandeered and most expensive buildings put up in the parks and gardens, this exceptionally suitable building stands as it did. Let it be clearly understood, however, that we are as far as possibly can be from wishing in any way to curtail the offices of the Air Board or cause it to put up with inconvenience. This question does not arise at all. The premises to which we have alluded are among many others that would serve their purpose just as well as the British Museum, which is threatened, or the Hotel Cecil, which is already taken, and it is no hardship or injustice to point out that they can gain what they want just as easily without upsetting the great storehouse of historic treasure, the value of which has grown with the years and will go on growing till the end of time.

#### FOREWORD TO A SOLDIER'S BOOK.

If here I offer what I should withhold  
For art to winnow and for years to mould,  
It is because youth's tale of days to-day is swiftly told.

Time is a flower that does not blow for me,  
And life the blossom smitten from a tree  
By one night's frost: I am to-day all I may ever be.

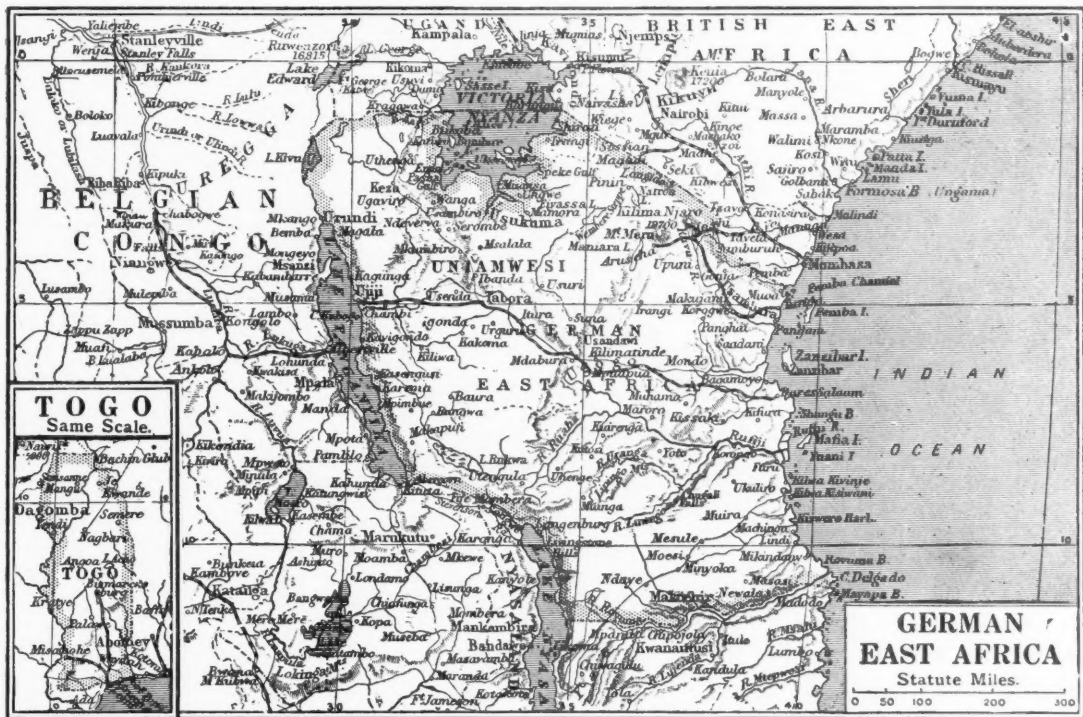
Suffer me, then, to force the future's door—  
To steal one sip of honey from her store!  
To-morrow, though I live or die, I shall be young no more.  
V. H. FRIEDLAENDER.

EXPERT agricultural readers will not have much to learn from the letter about liquid manure which is published in our "Correspondence" columns to-day, but they ought to do their very best to make the facts as widely known as possible. They are well aware that this most useful fertiliser is uncared for and wasted on a vast number of farms in Great Britain. It is safe to say that not one tenant in twenty has anything like an adequate system for storing it. Just now, however, when we are confronted with a great difficulty in obtaining artificial manures, the Food Production Department might do worse than scatter these facts abroad in the shape of a leaflet. Miss Coats has been in the habit of storing the liquid manure from her dairy and employing it on the land at the rate of 1,500 gallons per acre. She very wisely asked Dr. Russell to analyse the manure and to give her the result in terms of artificial fertilisers. Dr. Russell has given this, and the most interesting feature is the large amount of potash, that most necessary and most expensive of artificials. The value of the analysis will be appreciated, but still more so the results as shown in the article on the farm published in last week's issue. The pecuniary success of the dairy herd at Brenchley is traceable in the clearest way to the liquid manure tank.

ONE cannot help wishing that the incredulity of Sir Boverton Redwood in regard to the discovery of oil at Ramsey, near Peterborough, will be upset by the report of the expert who is investigating it. The news seems too good to be true. First there was one oil well, and then, within fifty yards of it, a second is discovered. The latter has already yielded both pure and crude oil in large quantities. It would be a very extraordinary accession to the natural wealth of this country if it were discovered that paraffin oil all ready for the lamp bubbled up out of the soil of its own accord! Sir Boverton Redwood suggests that the oil may have been carried there by a spring of water. Thus does he chasten the hopes of the optimist.

# GERMANY'S LOST EMPIRE

BY LEONARD J. REID.



George Philip & Son, L<sup>td</sup>

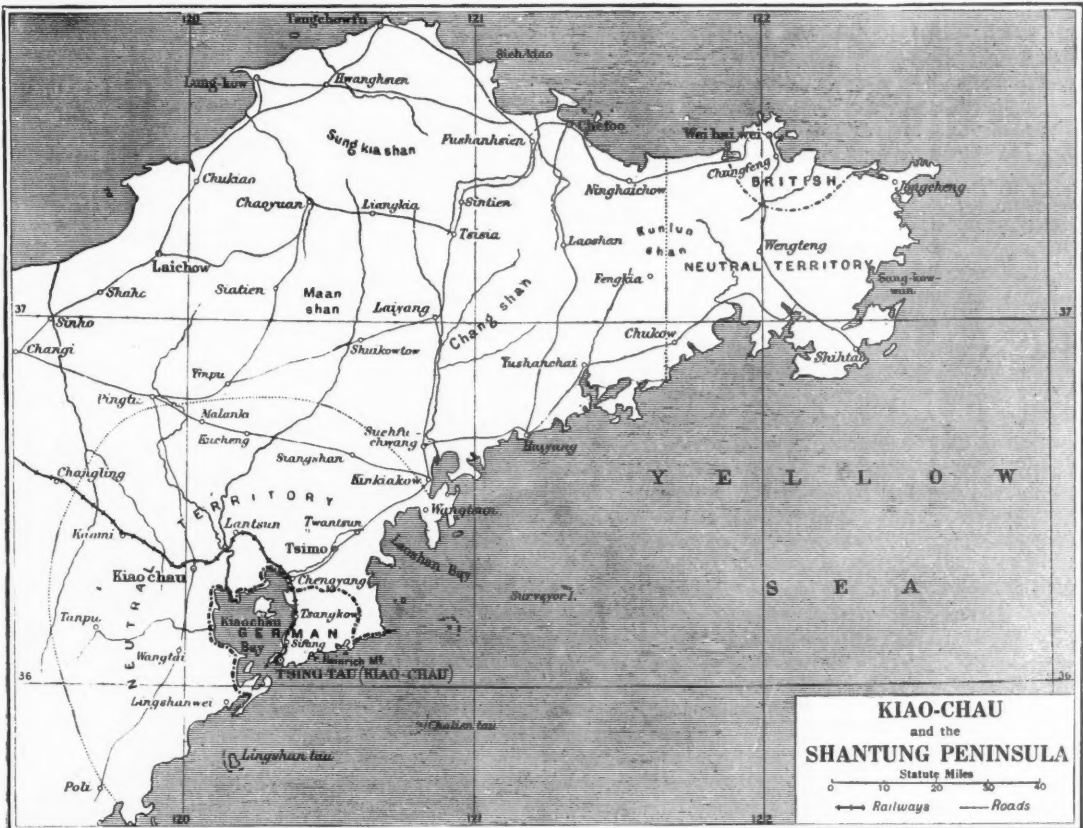
The London Geographical Institute

## GERMAN EAST AFRICA AND TOGO, THE LARGEST AND SMALLEST GERMAN COLONIES.

Area of German East Africa 384,000 square miles, nearly twice that of Germany (208,830 square miles). Sisal hemp and rubber are the principal products. In 1913 the colony had a population of 5,400 Europeans and 7,640,000 natives. Togoland, with its population of 1,000,000 natives, was most valued by Germany for its powerful wireless installation.

ON August 4th, 1914, Germany possessed a colonial empire covering an area of over one million square miles—that is, nearly six times the area of Germany itself. With the recent conclusion of the East African campaign the last remnant of these vast possessions

passed from her grasp. That is a war event to which, amid the daily rush of news from nearer fronts, insufficient attention has been paid. One reason why it has passed comparatively unnoticed here is that Britain did not enter the war for purposes of Imperial conquest, and our



George Philip & Son, L<sup>td</sup>

The London Geographical Institute

## KIAU-CHAU WITH THE PORT OF TSINGTAU—GERMANY'S FOOTHOLD IN THE EAST.

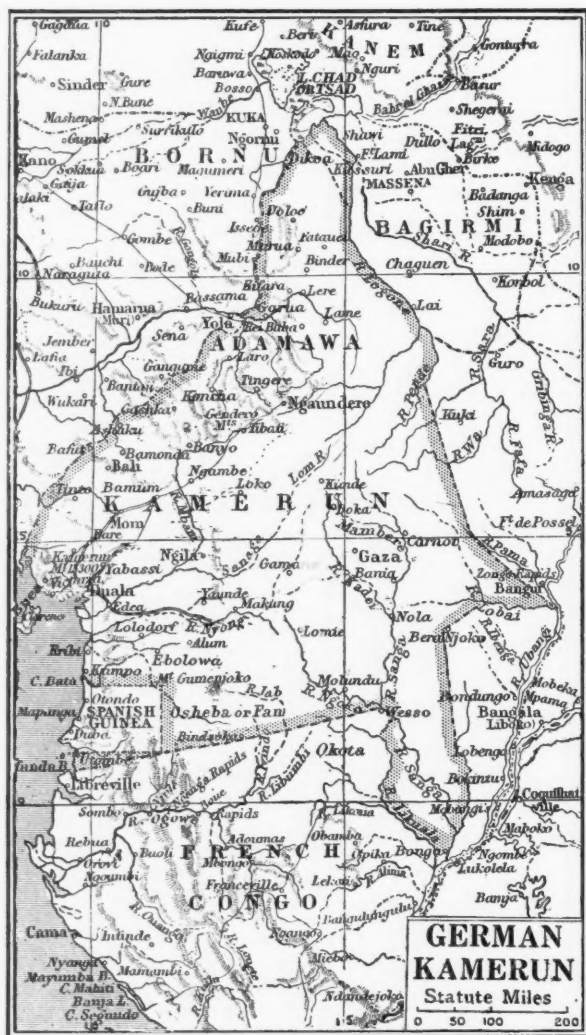
Coal, silk, oilcake and cotton were obtained from this colony, and in its trade, as in that of her other colonies, no country except Germany had more than a negligible share. Nowhere has Germany lavished money and organisation more liberally than on this colony. The town and harbour were intended for a Far-East base of the German Empire.



people are in no mood to gloat over territorial aggrandisement or annexations, however great. Moreover, with our eyes glued upon the Western Front, we are apt to dismiss African or Pacific victories as "side-shows" which can have little effect upon the great European struggle. There is a measure of truth in that view; yet there is another side to the matter. Anyone who recalls the feverish enthusiasm

part and a large portion of the east is barren desert, much of the rest is rich. Cattle breeding employs the greater proportion of colonists and natives. There were in April, 1913, 1,300 farms of an average of 24,700 acres worked by white farmers. Before the war trade was developing fast. In 1914 imports were valued at £2,171,000, exports at £3,515,000. By far the most important product was that of the diamond mines, which in 1913 was worth nearly £3,000,000. But copper, tin and wool exports were on the increase, and agriculture was being systematically encouraged by irrigation schemes and the formation of a Land Bank. Herr Dernberg, who visited the colony as Colonial Secretary of State in 1907, described it as "a potential Argentina or Canada," and there can be no doubt that it is a mineral and agricultural country of great possibilities.

German East Africa was the largest of the colonies, having an area of 384,000 square miles—or twice the area of Germany. Sisal hemp was the most important product, with rubber second and increasing in value. Over 19,000,000 rubber trees are in various stages of growth, and the industry is capable of much expansion. In 1913 this colony had a population of 5,400 Europeans and 7,640,000 natives. The Cameroons, situated on the West Coast of Africa between Nigeria and the French Congo, covers 191,000 square miles, and has a population of 2,600,000 natives and about 2,000 white men. It is rich in timber, palm oil, copra, bananas and cocoa, and would certainly well repay systematic railway construction. Then there is Togoland, the smallest

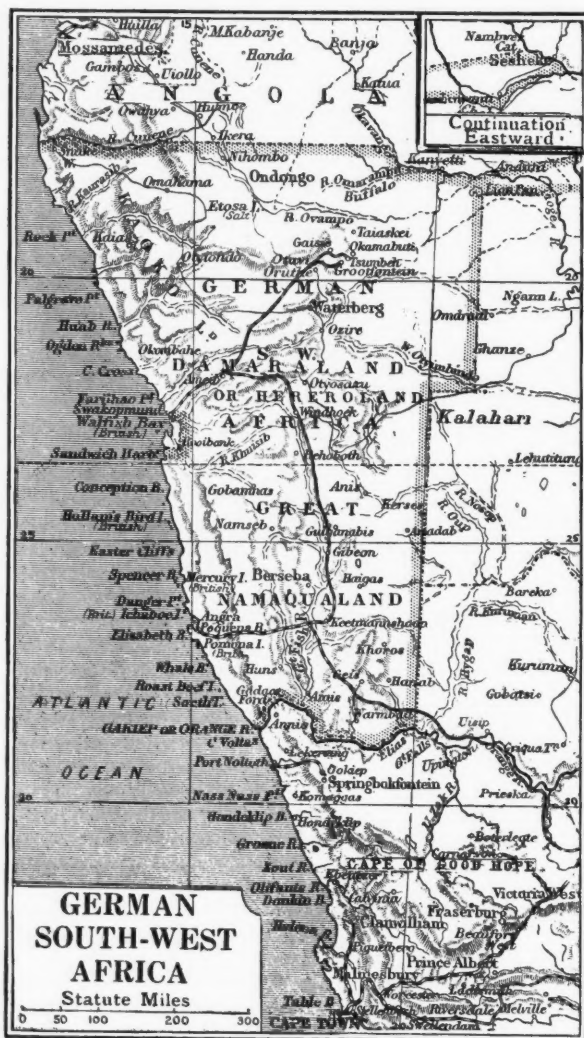


GERMAN CAMEROONS.

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with which the German people followed the diplomatic, commercial and military efforts of their rulers to gain a colonial empire—"a place in the sun," they called it—will realise how bitter to the German patriot is the loss of wide and rich territory acquired by decades of patient work. The speeches of Von Tirpitz and other Pan-Germans at the recent meeting at Essen expressed the deepest anger and dismay at this event. We, on our side, may hail it as a wonderful tribute to our sea power and to the strength of British resources that so many successful campaigns in far lands have been financed, supplied and fought, while at the same time we were concentrating our principal efforts in other theatres of war. Admiral Jellicoe counsels us sometimes to "brag a bit"; here, surely, there is justification for it. At the least, we can claim that, if it comes to a rival display of war maps, we can show one as well as the German Chancellor.

Germany's pre-war empire consisted of East Africa, South-West Africa, the Cameroons, Togoland, a strip of New Guinea, the Bismarck group of islands in the Pacific, the Caroline, the Pelew, the Marianne, the Solomon, the Marshall, the Samoan Islands and last, but not least in importance, Kiau Chau, which she obtained on a 999 years' lease in 1899. In 1913 the aggregate population of these possessions was 12,500,000 natives and 25,000 Europeans. Of this empire South-West Africa—so gallantly conquered by Generals Botha and Smuts—was undoubtedly the brightest jewel in the Potsdam crown. Lying between Portuguese West Africa and British South Africa, the colony has an area of 322,450 square miles. Although the whole of the southern



GERMAN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA—"A POTENTIAL ARGENTINA OR CANADA."

Area 322,450 square miles. There were in April, 1913, 1,300 farms averaging 24,700 acres worked by white farmers. In 1914 imports were valued at £2,171,000, exports at £3,515,000. The product of the diamond mines in 1913 was worth nearly £3,000,000.

of the chief German possessions, lying between the Gold Coast and French Dahomey. The climate on the coast is unhealthy for Europeans, and Germany, perhaps, valued this possession most for its powerful wireless installation. Nevertheless, the production of palm oil, palm kernels, cocoa, maize and cotton was being developed before the war, and the native population exceeds 1,000,000.

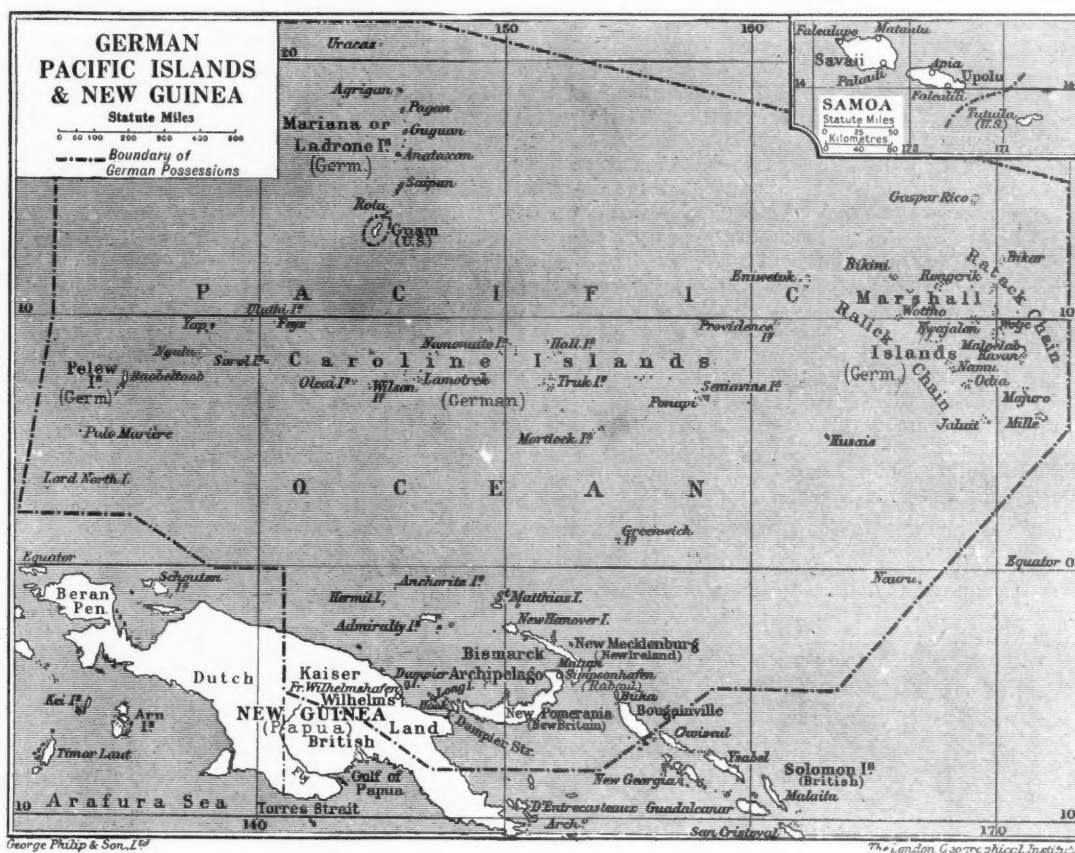


Leaving Africa, we come to the Pacific, where Germany's island possessions covered an area of 96,000 square miles and contained a population of some 2,000 white men and 650,000 natives. The chief exports of these islands are copra and phosphates, but rubber, cocoa and tobacco are also produced. With life in these islands all readers of Robert Louis Stevenson are well acquainted. Indeed, the British occupation of Stevenson's Samoa is one of the events of the war which has closely touched the sentiment of all who love English letters. There remains to be mentioned only the small strip of the Chinese province of Shantung, known as Kiau-Chau, with its port of Tsingtau. This colony, from which coal, silk, oilcake and cotton were obtained, ranked high in German estimation as her foothold in the East. In the trade of practically every one of these colonies no country except Germany had more than an almost negligible share.

Such is the empire which the German Government has, by its own deliberate act, thrown into the melting pot of war. Whether it is to be allowed to revert to Germany, or how else it may be disposed of, is not the least difficult of the questions which the Peace Conference will have to decide. Without attempting to predict the future, or trespassing on controversial ground, I may, perhaps, mention

claim that the Fatherland had proved a successful coloniser and the reason is not far to seek. British colonising methods are based on a study of economic requirements and the securing of liberty and justice to the natives. With Germany both these considerations are subservient to "system" and military plans. This is well illustrated by German administration in South-West Africa. The great need of the country was development by a suitable railway system. Germany, indeed, built railways, but entirely with a view to strategic use and without thought of economic needs, which they served by accident rather than by intention. The colony was looked upon as a military asset in case of war, and, as were all other colonies, was administered by a wholly unelastic system of Prussian bureaucracy. That being so, small wonder that natives and neighbours alike look upon restoration to Germany with suspicion and apprehension as a menace to their future peace.

Nowhere, with the possible exception of the Pacific Islands, are the German rulers popular with their late subjects. Trust and affection are not engendered by the methods I have described. Nor are they inculcated by the brutal methods employed by Germany to deal with native disaffection and labour troubles, of which the classic instance



GERMAN PACIFIC ISLANDS AND NEW GUINEA.

Germany's island possessions in the Pacific covered an area of 96,000 square miles with a population of some 2,000 white men and 650,000 natives.

some vital aspects of the question. In the first place the native population of this lost empire—particularly that of East and South-West Africa—represents some of the finest and most eager fighting material in the world. General Smuts found in South-West Africa that his prisoners asked for nothing better than to be given rifles and to be allowed to fight against their former comrades, largely for pure love of fighting. Obviously to leave such splendid material in the hands of an unrepentant, militarist, megalomaniac Germany would be a menace to the future security of the world, which stands in the forefront of the peace aims of the Great Alliance. If Germany truly repents on the lines of President Wilson's famous requirements—well, the question perhaps assumes a different complexion. But there will always remain the question of geographical propinquity. In the African settlement, British South Africa, Belgium, Portugal and France will speak with powerful voices; of the future in the Pacific, France and Australia will have their say; and as to the disposition of Kiau-Chau, Japanese opinion will not lack strong expression.

Then there is the point of view of the great native populations themselves. The blindest German patriot could hardly

is the massacre of the Herreros. Straws often show which way the wind blows, and to portray the comparison which the African native makes between British and German methods of colonisation, I cannot do better than repeat a story told to me by a friend resident in the far north of Northern Rhodesia. At the small settlement where my friend resided in 1915 the white men decided to subscribe funds for an aeroplane to be presented to the British Government. My friend showed the subscription list to his native "boy," explaining that an aeroplane was used to kill Germans, and, by way of a joke, asked if he would like to subscribe £5. The native was deeply impressed and replied: "Yes, but I will bring you more than £5." My friend dismissed the conversation from his mind, until a week later his servant brought him more than £50 collected in tiny coins. The sum must have represented the life savings of himself and many of his native friends, and they gave it willingly, eagerly, to help in "killing Germans." Probably they had heard of the Herrero tragedy. At any rate, this simple act seems to me a small but striking condemnation of German and vindication of British methods of colonisation.

## AGRICULTURE IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

**B**UCKINGHAMSHIRE is a county fortunate in its name, which at once suggests to the mind noble houses, fair lands, and wealthy, old-fashioned squires. To the Londoner it is reminiscent of pleasant roaming on the Chilterns or under magnificent beeches. It used to be a country very much neglected from the agricultural point of view, and still abounds in commons and common grazings. It may for convenience be divided into three parts, of which the first in importance is the rich dairy land of the Vale of Aylesbury. If it be defined as stretching from beyond the historic town of Buckingham to Amersham, arable as well as pasture must be included. Next come the Chiltern Hills, whose capital is High Wycombe, famous for its chair-making. Flint, clay, gravel in various proportions meet but do not gladden the farmer's eye. In the Thames Valley, especially that part between Maidenhead and London, a kindly soil lying on blue clay has enabled the nurseryman and the market gardener to flourish. Here are the only really good orchards of the county. During the 'seventies the mania for letting arable down to grass was very prevalent in the county. In 1867, roughly speaking, 136,000 acres were devoted to growing wheat, barley, oats and rotation grass, while the permanent grass covered 181,000 acres. But in less than forty years after, all the arable crops mentioned, with the exception of oats, had diminished in area, so that only 105,687 acres were devoted to them, while 250,469 acres were entered in the agricultural returns as permanent grass. In its praiseworthy endeavour to increase bread stuffs the Food Production Department has requisitioned that 40,000 additional acres should be ploughed up for the harvest of 1918. It is not an unreasonable proportion of the acreage turned down, but the task is one of great magnitude if it be considered in relation to the resources at the disposal of the farmers. However, the Executive Council are setting about the task with a will. They are, indeed, as active and zealous a body as one could wish to meet, and they have exhibited the greatest sense and tact in producing what is essentially a revolution in the agriculture of the county without friction and with the good-will and sympathy of the inhabitants. There were originally seven members of the Executive Committee, but there are now nine, of whom a preponderating majority directly represent the landed interest, six of them being tenant farmers, and one, the Marquess of Lincolnshire, a local landowner and an ex-Minister of Agriculture. The Chairman is Dr. Leonard H. West, who has had unusual experience of county organisation, and the District Valuer, Mr. H. F. Raffety, whose energy and application have been invaluable. As an Executive body the Committee meets once a week and sometimes twice, and in addition there are six sub-committees which meet every Thursday. The staff consists of the Executive Officer, who is responsible for the inspection and cultivation of the land; the Machinery Officer, who directs the working of the tractors; the Labour Officer, whose business is to keep the legitimate workers on the land and obtain soldier labour where farmers are short of men; a Supplies Clerk, in whose hands is placed the business connected with fertilisers, seeds, and so on; and the Secretary, who attends to the correspondence and office routine. A preliminary survey of the land was made in 1917. It was done gratuitously by the surveyors of the county. It was not an easy task to carry out the survey of 475,000 acres. Schedules had to be made out showing the original valuation number the parish, the name of the farm, the total area and the name of the tenant. Separate schedules were prepared for each parish, and the 6in. ordnance maps were coloured holding by holding, and made to correspond with the schedules. In order to get through with the work attention was first of all concentrated on the large farms, and the smaller holdings for the time being ignored. The information thus gained enabled the Executive to set about the work in earnest. They were greatly helped by the District Committees which had been formed at an early stage of the proceedings. The county is divided into eleven districts, each with its own Committee. The members are themselves cultivators of the soil. In some counties it proved rather invidious to set a committee composed of farmers to look at the land of a neighbour and, if need be, exhort him to more energy and enterprise. But the system seems to have worked very well in Buckinghamshire, and it was in the truest sense of the word educational. Before deciding what fields should be ploughed up and what should not, the members of the Committee had to acquire the data for forming a clear opinion of their

own on the matter. They soon entered into the spirit of the affair, and Mr. Raffety records it as his experience that a well organised and able District Committee is not only ready, but extremely anxious to undertake a large amount of the work in its area. The routine followed was that when an adverse report was given by the surveyor the particulars and any other necessary information were put on a card and the card handed to the District Committee for consideration. They had to return them with any comments or recommendations that might be derived from their local knowledge, and in the majority of cases they dealt very thoroughly with the situation. In this way the Executive Committee was placed in possession of the essential facts and at once proceeded to deal with the farms that had been reported backward. If it appeared that a farmer's neglect had been due to failure to appreciate the importance of the work, a letter was sent calling his attention to the matter and requesting that he would inform the Committee what steps he was taking to amend his ways. Very often this was enough. If it were not, a more serious letter followed; and if this was not sufficient, an inspector was instructed to visit the farm, interview the tenant and report to the Committee. It has been found that a series of monthly inspections had a very wholesome effect in the way of rousing the activity of the careless farmer.

There are now thirty motor tractors at work in the county, divided into six half units of five tractors each. This work is under the supervision of the Machinery Officer, and a special Sub-Committee, called the Machinery Committee, deals with all questions that arise. The Committee are expecting an increased delivery of motor tractors at a very early date, and this will materially assist in the programme of conversion of grass into arable. A member of the Committee explains the scheme as follows:

We work on the principle of asking all farmers to forward their requirements for tractor working to the secretary of the District Machinery Sub-Committee. This committee then decide, from their local knowledge, whether the land the tractor is applied for is suitable for the purpose, and approximately the time at which it should be ploughed. At the offices of the Executive Committee is a schedule for each tractor, and on receipt of the information referred to from the secretary of the District Tractor Committee the Machinery Officer enters on this schedule the forward work of the tractor. In addition to this he plots out the nearest and most convenient route by which the tractor can travel, and furnishes the engineer with a copy of the schedule and route card, so that there is no possibility of delay. Special post-cards are supplied to the engineer and driver of the tractor, on which they notify any movement to the Machinery Officer. A 1in. map of the area is also kept in the offices, having pinned flags with the number of the tractors, the flags being moved from place to place, and in this way showing at any time the exact position of each tractor.

As supplementary to what has been said about tractors, it should be known that satisfactory progress has been made in the county with the scheme for the loan of horses, with or without ploughmen, to farmers who have engaged to break up grass land for the 1918 programme. There are seventy horses at present working in the county, and it is anticipated that in the spring there will be a very much larger demand for this assistance. In several instances farmers who have engaged the horses and ploughmen have been so gratified with the work which has been done that they have expressed a desire for the same horses and men to be available for further cultivation operations in 1918.

Serious complaints have been received by the Committee at various times as to damage by rooks, rabbits and pheasants. With reference to the first, the Committee have power under the Rooks Order to authorise persons to enter upon land for the purpose of killing the rooks complained of. In the spring of 1917 the Committee received reports from several District Committees that farmers were suffering injury from rooks. No orders authorising persons to enter upon land have been made in connection with rooks, the Committee having found that a strong letter written to the owners of the rookeries requesting them to kill as many rooks as possible has had the desired effect. Concerning the damage by rabbits, the Committee have taken action in two instances to protect farmers whose crops have suffered damage by authorising persons to enter upon land to kill or take the rabbits—in one instance a very large estate in the north of the county. In this instance good work has been done, while in others the owners of land where rabbits have been complained of have been written to and requested to take immediate steps to reduce the head of ground game, and in these cases also the Committee have received reports of satisfactory results. Damage by pheasants has also come under the notice of the



Committee, and while at present they have not put into operation their powers under the Pheasants Order, 1917, the Committee have, by written communications, secured the destruction of a large number of this class of game in order to safeguard the crops of farmers adjoining the coverts.

The question of breaking up arable land in relation to the milk supply is one which the Committee have very seriously considered, and their action in the past has been to secure, as far as possible, that in no cases shall orders to convert pasture land into arable be given which would interfere with or cause any reduction of milking herds. In many instances no action has been taken at all where it has been definitely shown to the Committee that any order to plough up grass land would have the effect referred to, and in other

cases farmers have been asked whether they could substitute land for that scheduled for conversion into arable, which would enable them not only to retain the present milking herd, but to contribute their quota to the increased arable area demanded of the county.

We have left ourselves little space to speak of drainage in Buckinghamshire, but it is a very urgent and important question. As in other counties, this was neglected from the depression onwards, and the agriculturist of to-day feels very acutely that it is impossible to hope for real success in his craft unless a good tilth can be secured; and no good tilth can be depended upon without sufficient drainage. The matter is occupying the full attention of the Executive Council, and on a future occasion we may write something about the solution which they find for the difficulty.

## THE DESIRABILITY OF "ONE WAY" MOTOR PLOUGHING

### NEED OF A NEW DESIGN.

I AM afraid that the application of motor power to farming operations is being looked upon from a wrong viewpoint by the majority of the producers and designers of power farm machinery. Too often the idea is to provide a substitute for the horse which will do the same work and utilise the same implements. I believe this to be quite wrong in principle and very detrimental to the best interests of the makers as well as the users of mechanical power for agricultural purposes.

Probably motor ploughing is the operation which is most handicapped in its development owing to these causes, as so many erroneous ideas connected therewith have become through long practice accepted as facts or laws. Unless the designer of a motor plough is a man of some considerable field experience and at the same time blessed with an inquisitive and deductive mind, it is only natural that he will accept as facts the statements which are made to him by his farmer friends if all the statements agree.

In many respects the farmer is a bad counsellor for a motor plough designer, because the farmer's advice is the result of years or generations of past experiences, all based upon the limited foundation of muscle power, and is rarely of a speculative or imaginative nature. It seems to be quite unusual for a farmer to come to his own conclusions as to what he requires in the way of improved machinery and to then take steps to get it made for him. On the contrary, the introducer of new machinery generally has quite a lot of trouble in getting the farmer even to try it, if it is necessary for the farmer to speculate in the slightest degree in order to do so.

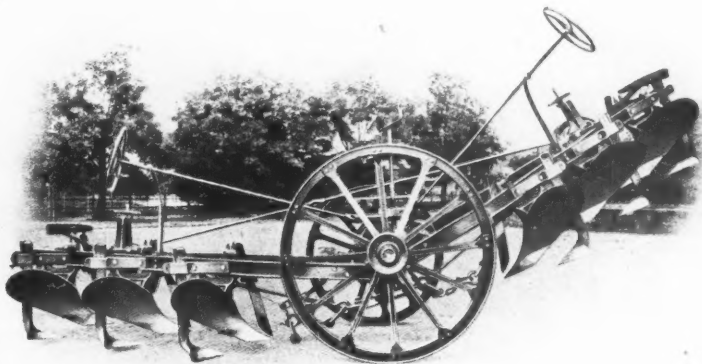
In the recent report of the trials of motor ploughing machines held in Scotland by the Highland and Agricultural Society, the report condemned as wrong tractors which completed their ploughing tests at an unusually rapid rate, and in this condemnation I know that most of the farmers present agreed. The tractors in my opinion were not wrong, but the ploughs used were unsuitable *at the speed* for doing work such as the farmers had been used to and which they looked upon as a standard of excellence. Under certain circumstances (such as stubble ploughing of dry friable soil which would be seeded as soon after as possible) the high speed ploughing and broken soil would be a decided advantage, as it would reduce the harrowing necessary and would also assist in retaining the moisture in the soil.

For generations the capabilities of the horses and the walking comfort of the ploughman have limited ploughing speeds to, say, 1½ miles to 2¼ miles per hour, and during all this time the makers of ploughs have been devoting themselves to producing ploughs which will do their best work at these speeds. There is, however, no law, natural or otherwise, which prevents ploughs being designed to do first-class work at considerably higher speeds, notwithstanding that so many manufacturers and farmers state emphatically that good ploughing cannot be done at speeds over 2½ miles per hour.

Already we have steam ploughing being done at speeds quite twice as fast as horse ploughing, and there is no reason why motor ploughing should not be done at least as fast

as steam can do it. The practice of ploughing at higher speeds would greatly reduce wheel slippage, and would necessitate less weight of tractor and shorter spuds or spikes for gripping with. Long spuds are a source of great loss of power.

Ploughing is quite the most considerable operation of the year on an arable farm, and it is of first importance to get the ploughing done as quickly as possible when soil and weather conditions are favourable. To do this means the utilisation of a great deal of power, either horse or motor, at one time. To conserve human labour it is certainly most economical to use the power in the form of large



*A Balance Plough as used in conjunction with a Steam Ploughing Outfit.*

units of mechanical power. One man can just as easily control a 30 h.p. motor as a 10 h.p., and the extra power enables him to do much more work. When the manager of an engineering works finds that he has a big and certain demand for any particular production he procures a specially designed automatic machine to deal with it, if by so doing he can save labour and increase his rate of production. I maintain that the importance of ploughing *at the right time* amply justifies the use of a machine specially designed to give the best possible results for this particular work, and I believe the best type of machine would be a "One Way" motor plough.

A "One Way" plough is a plough which throws the soil either to the right or left as required, consequently the ploughman can start at one end of the field, plough across it using, say, the right-hand action, and then return alongside the same furrow, using the left-hand action, thus turning the furrows one way. If the same course were ploughed with a two way plough, which only turns the soil to the right, the furrows ploughed would be thrown away from each other and a ditch with a bank on either side would be the result, instead of two furrow slices neatly laid one against the other.

It is, therefore, usual to plough a return furrow parallel to the first furrow, but several yards distant therefrom, and to keep working from side to side of the section of land between until it is all ploughed out. It will be evident that when the ploughings meet a furrow or ditch (known as a dead furrow) will result. When a section of the field is laid out as above for ploughing it is known as a "land."



It so happens that for no other tillage or harvesting operation, except threshing, is a large unit of power required; but the power which would be suitable for a special purpose machine to plough three or four furrows would also be suitable for driving a threshing machine. Although designed primarily for the special purpose of ploughing, such a machine would also be suitable for mole-draining, sub-soiling, deep cultivating, and such like heavy duties which would be beyond the capabilities of a tractor best suited to hauling a binder, seed drill, light harrows, roller, mowing machine, and other implements which do not require powerful or expensive tractors to operate them. Bearing all these services in mind it is, therefore, perhaps more correct to describe the machine I have in mind as a "One Way" deep tillage machine, as the plough bottoms can easily be replaced with cultivator tines, mole plough or sub-soiler.

I advocate a "One Way" machine as it has many advantages over the two way type now in general use, which is a relic of the passing vogue for horse ploughing. There are, however, one way horse ploughs already in use in this country in certain districts, notable examples being the Kent Balance plough and the Turnwrest plough. Until very recently horse ploughing has been almost the only system of *one man* ploughing practised, and the lightness and simplicity of the present standard two way ploughs overbalanced the disadvantage of having to measure and set out the fields in "lands," especially as there were plenty of ploughmen available who were experts at the work. The majority of these men could plough a furrow dead true from end to end, both as regards straightness and width of cut, with the result that each "land" was completely, and neatly ploughed out.

The foundation of the ploughing was therefore skilled hand labour, which is now entirely out of date in every form of production on a large scale, when it can be replaced by machinery controllable by non-skilled labour.

Motor power is replacing the expert walking ploughman because with a given expenditure in machinery and labour more land can be ploughed and otherwise tilled by motor than by horse power.

The motor, however, cannot just step in and carry on with the methods of its predecessor, if it is to do itself justice, and will be much handicapped if it attempts to do so.

There is no doubt whatever that the two way system of ploughing is the bugbear of the present-day motor ploughman, as rarely is he able either to set out the "lands" accurately for himself or to plough them out neatly after they have been set out.

This and the matter of wide headlands are probably the two points in connection with tractor ploughing which the farmer most adversely criticises.

Except in water-logged land, which depends upon surface drainage and is deliberately ploughed with dead furrows and ridges for this purpose, there is every reason why the two way system should be replaced by the one way.

Not only would the *unproductive* labour (and skill) required for setting out the "lands" be dispensed with, but much superior work would result both in regard to finish and the ploughing out of awkwardly shaped fields, besides which there would be a great saving in time.

Hillside ploughing now necessitates either ploughing up and down the hill or round the hill. In the former, unless the width of ploughing can be instantly varied, the width of cut in both directions is limited to that which can be ploughed when working up the hill. Ploughing round the hill means working one way only and returning idle because of the difficulty in turning the furrow over against the slope of the hill. A "One Way" plough would enable the usual width of furrow to be ploughed in both directions round the hill, as the soil would be turned in the same direction on the return journey as on the outward.

There are three principal methods by which "One Way" motor ploughing may be attained:

(a) By means of a self-propelled balance plough. That is to say, the same type of plough which is used for steam ploughing, but instead of being hauled across the field by cables from steam engines at either side, the motive power would be part and parcel of the plough. This type of machine would run across the field and then *without turning round* would reverse and come back alongside the furrows last ploughed.

(b) By means of either a Turnwrest plough or two independent ploughs carried by a self-contained motor ploughing machine such as the Crawley Agrimotor, the construction of which enables it to turn round completely in its own length.

(c) By means of a separate reversible plough or two ploughs which can be attached to an ordinary tractor in such a way that the whole outfit can be manoeuvred backwards and forwards at the headlands for the purpose of turning easily in the restricted space available.

These methods are capable of being greatly varied and elaborated.

The accompanying illustration shows a balance plough as used in conjunction with a steam ploughing outfit; and in the December issues of COUNTRY LIFE will be found illustrations of several types of self-contained motor ploughs and a large number of tractors, one of which, the Emerson, incorporates a device for lifting the plough entirely clear of the ground so that the tractor can manoeuvre in any direction.

I shall be very pleased to hear from anyone already working on the design or construction of a "One Way" motor plough.

PLOUGHSHARE.

## BIRDS IN THE SNOW

It would be exceedingly bad luck for the birds if the present winter and the coming spring developed in as hard a manner as the season last year. The latter reduced their numbers almost to the vanishing point, and even the breeding season, although tolerably favourable, has not restored the feathered population to our gardens. The robin, instead of being familiar, is now a visitor all the more welcome because he puts in an appearance so seldom.

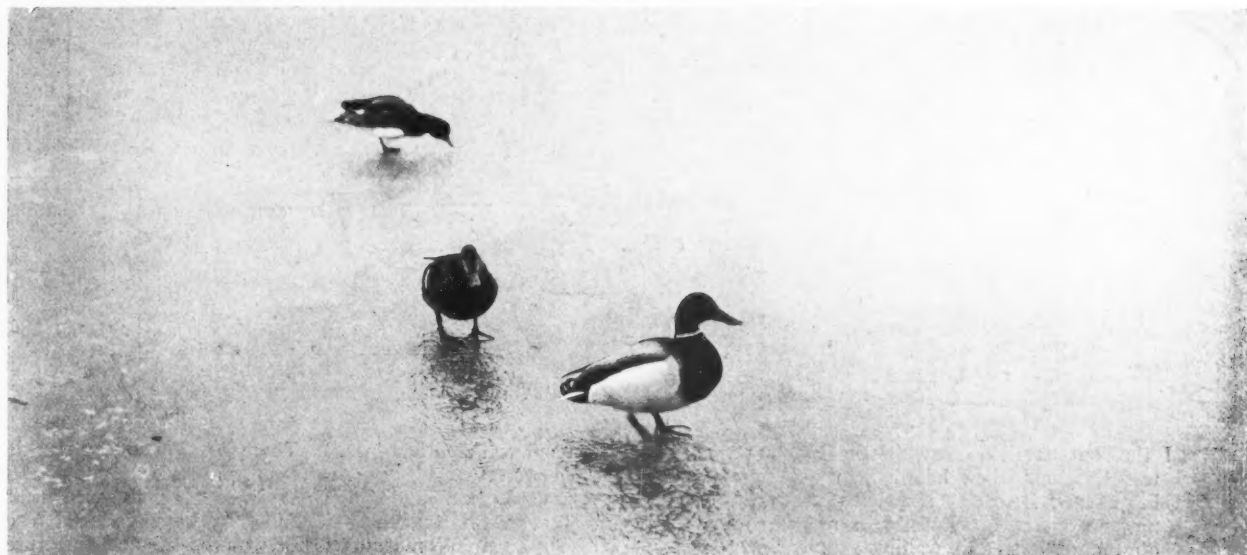


Stanley Crook.

INSIDE THE NUT.

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The tits that used to amuse us by their antics scarcely visit us nowadays. We are writing, be it noted, of an individual garden, as it is impossible to speak of the whole country in these sweeping terms. But as far as our knowledge goes, the conditions prevail very generally. Everywhere one hears complaints of the diminution of our little songsters owing to the hardness of last winter. The frosty, snowy weather which came about Christmas-time afforded a very good indication of what had happened. Although abundance



THE FROZEN LAKE.

of food was placed outside for the birds, few came except the sparrows and starlings, which no misfortune seems to

daunt or cow. One was almost led to imagine that there are more of these two species existing at the present moment than ever before in the history of English birds. The sparrows come about the stack-yard in millions and cover the tall thorn hedge as if with a garment; while the passage

of a crowd of starlings is like a great cloud driven before the wind. But the bullfinch, the wren (both the goldcrest

and the common variety), the linnet, blackbird and songthrush scarcely put in even an incidental appearance.

Under such circumstances it behoves all who love the birds to take special pains in feeding them. Attention to this matter might be the means of preserving a pair, or even two pairs, through the inclement months, and with good fortune that means a nest of singing birds later on. Every year it is pleasant to feed these



WATER-HEN SEARCHING FOR FOOD.

little friends, but it is more than pleasant in such a year as this.



Stanley Crook.

WIDGEON IN THE SNOW.

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OF the Chatsworth House which Sir William Cavendish was building when he died, in 1557, and which his widow, Bess of Hardwick, finished, there are now no outward and visible signs. Yet not only do foundations and walling remain incorporated in the building which the first Duke of Devonshire began to edify in 1687, but also there are two of the little round towers which carried newel stairs enfolded in the Ionic order that projects from the east front, and part of one of them still serves its original purpose of ascent, being the means of access from the library floor to its gallery. The sixteenth century house had the quadrangular form of its successor which was built, one side after another, on its foundations. It was not unlike an Oxford College of its period with gate-house tower in the centre of the west side, while the great hall will have been opposite, that is, on the side of the quadrangle, where the painted hall is now. The large size of the house and the vast number of its chambers appear from Bess of Hardwick's "Inventorie of the ffurniture of household stuff which is ment and apoynted by this my laste Will and Testament to be, remayne and contynewe at my house at Chatesworth." As wife to the Earl of Shrewsbury she had received in her own chief residence the captive Queen Mary at various times between the years 1570 and 1581, and we get an idea of the get-up of the suite of rooms occupied by "the Scotes Queene" in whose "Inner Chamber" was a bedstead with "Canapee of velvet and clothe of golde with Sarcenet Curtins." The Countess's own chamber was severe though rich. The whole bed—tester, posts and frame—was covered in "black wrought Velvet with Golde lace and Golde frence Curtins of black damask all

trymmed with Gold lace." There were also "2 turkie Carpetes, a Court Cubberd . . . a looking glasse and a frame to set it on." It is interesting to note that already at Chatsworth she had largely introduced the inlaying or simple marquetry for wainscoting and furniture which, at the end of her long life, she used at Hardwick, dating from 1597, and of which a fine surviving example lines the great chamber of Gilling Castle, dating from a dozen years earlier. But the "high great chamber" and the "high gallerie" at Chatsworth were "verie fayre waynscotted with coulored woodes markewtrie." In the one we hear of "a fayre long Table with a frame inlayde, eleven stooles



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1.—THE WEST FRONT IN PERSPECTIVE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

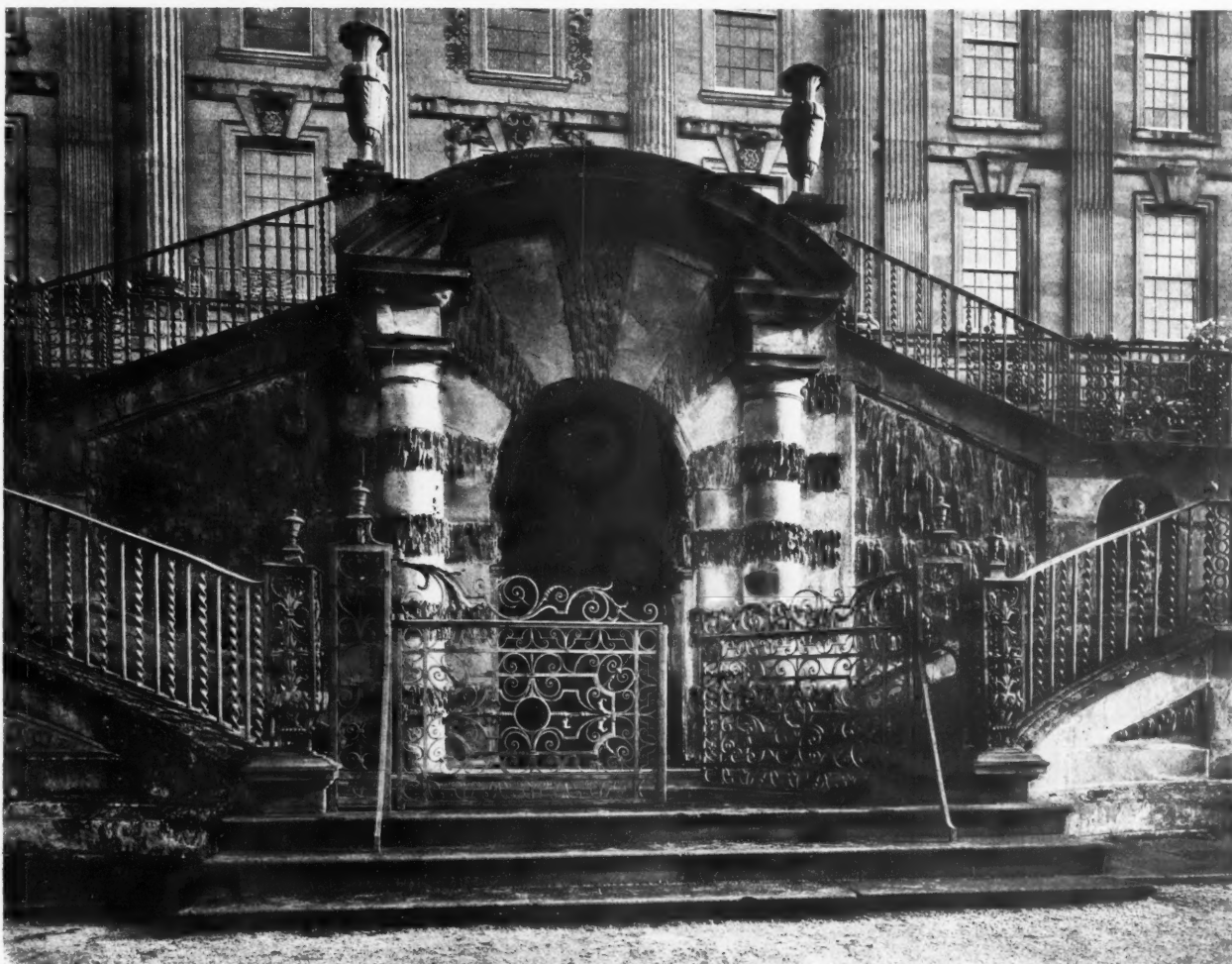




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2.—THE WEST FRONT AND TERRACE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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3.—THE "FROST WORK" GROTTTO AND WEST TERRACE STEPS.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

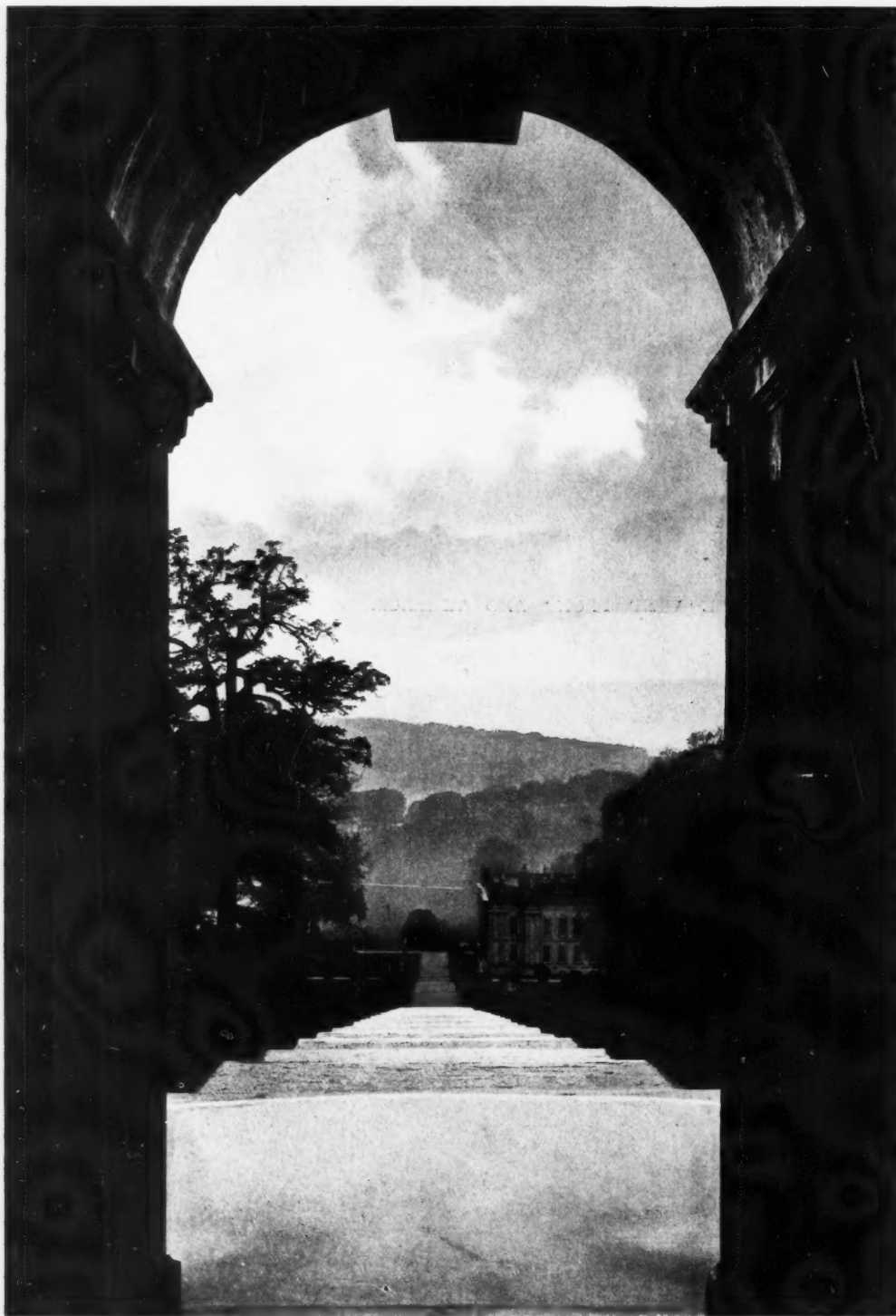
inlayde," and in the other "fourteene inlayde stooles an inlayde forme." Panelling was everywhere, even the hall being wainscoted which was then unusual as the customary set of tapestries reached nearly to the ground. All this was in oak, but the parlour was "fayre waynscotted with white wood"—an early example of the use of pine—and above it was evidently a plaster frieze described as "imbossed worke above the waynscott." All this has disappeared (unless some of it has found its way to Hardwick, which, though built much after her execution, has also a Queen

having prudently gone abroad soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, tided over Commonwealth times with little hurt. For though the alternate occupation of Chatsworth by Parliamentary and Royalist garrisons may have sadly lessened the list in Bess's inventory, the Restoration found him a prosperous man well able to repair all damage and indulge in alterations that in some measure approximated the old-fashioned seat to the new taste. Charles Cotton, the continuator of his friend Izaak Walton's "Compleat Angler," describes Chatsworth as it was at the close of the

third Earl's life. Entering from the west under the Elizabethan gate-house, the visitor crossed the quadrangle and passing through a fine portico found himself in the "proud Hall." He had known it in its original state, but finds it "much more lovely in the modern graces," and especially by the substitution of sashes for the "primitive casements." Extensive formal gardens, "Terrais, Plat, Fountain and Grove," had already been laid out, so that fine as they had been,

Yet now they with much greater lustre stand  
Tougt up, and finisht by  
a better hand.

But when, in 1684, William Cavendish succeeded his father as fourth Earl, he considered the place by no means "finisht," and soon set about a drastic scheme of reconstruction. As a Commoner he had sat for Derby and had taken an active part in the Whig agitation for the exclusion of the Duke of York from the throne. Although he avoided implication in the Rye House Plot which cost his friend Lord Russell his life, he was given the cold shoulder at Court when the Duke became James II. Such treatment did not suit the Earl's pride and hot temper. He answered a Tory courtier's insult by knocking him down in the Presence Chamber and the King's Bench imposed on him a crushing fine. Although he avoided payment and made but a short stay



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4.—THE CASCADE FROM ITS TEMPLE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

Mary bedroom), but our regret is tempered by the excellence of the work which replaced it a century after "Bess" had died. She had been succeeded by her eldest son on whom James I conferred the Earldom of Devonshire. Hobbes, first among English seventeenth century philosophers, was tutor to his son who, nevertheless, died at the age of thirty-eight "from indulgence in good living," having, like his contemporary the third Earl of Dorset, greatly embarrassed his estates through his profuse magnificence. The widow used a long minority to set them right, and the third earl

in prison, he found the Derbyshire air more congenial than that of London while James remained on the throne. He became a central figure in the Northern preparations for the advent of Dutch William who started from Holland with the intention of landing in Yorkshire. Bad weather drove him back, and the landing eventually took place at Torbay on November 5th, 1688. That "year of English Liberty" was long held to be the date of the commencement of the rebuilding of Chatsworth, and as such is carved on the frieze of the mantelpiece which the sixth Duke of Devonshire

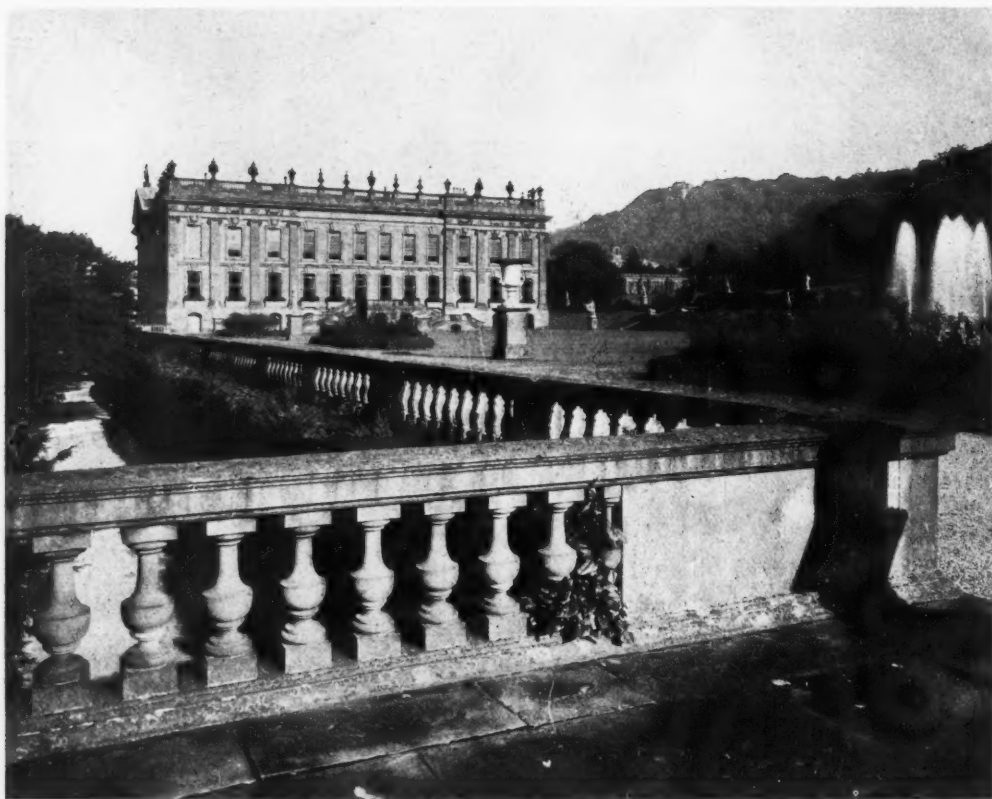


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5.—THE CASCADE TEMPLE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."





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6.—THE SOUTH SIDE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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7.—THE ORANGERY OR GREENHOUSE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

set up in the painted hall a century and a half later. But surviving accounts show that the fourth earl had put the matter in hand and appointed Talman his architect quite eighteen months before William's advent. One James Wheldon acted as his Derbyshire "Receiver and Auditor" at a wage of £40 a year and he starts a calf bound folio book with the heading:

Disbursements by James Wheldon for the use of the Right hon<sup>ble</sup> William Earle of Devonshire in the halfe yeare beginning at Michaelmas 1686.

Much money is sent to Roger Jackson, the London agent "for my hon<sup>ble</sup> Lords use," for he was an expensive man whom Bishop Burnet described as "the finest and handsomest gentleman of his time; loves the ladies and plays; keeps a noble house and equipage." But the accounts also show every expense incurred and every artist and craftsman employed in the new building at Chatsworth, as well as the ordinary expenses of the place. Responsible for garden and farm expenditure at a wage of £5 per annum and his board, was Robert Stafford to whom also, and without any acknowledged increase of remuneration, was handed over the duty of making all payments to those engaged in the rebuilding, whether they were local workmen or London artists. Thus under date April 12th, 1687, in Wheldon's book we find the entry:

Item Imprested then to Robert Stafford to disburse for my hon<sup>ble</sup> Lords use, viz, by Mr. Talmans order to pay work-mens & labourers bills for laying up old materials, carrying away rubbish, making way to ye quarries, making ye masons lodge, making engins & drags, in order to the new alteracon at Chatsworth the sum of fifty two pounds and seventeen shillings.

On the same date Talman orders Stafford to pay £450 to



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8.—THE OLD "BOWLING GREEN HOUSE."

"COUNTRY LIFE."

*Removed from the North End of the long walk by the sixth Duke.*

Benjamin Jackson the mason "upon his bargains for pulling downe y<sup>e</sup> side of Chatsworth house and rebuilding it." For his share of the work of "pulling down the south side" John Cressell, carpenter, is paid £60. Even before work was begun on the south side the iron gates and clairvoyée, which bounded the forecourt until the sixth Duke abolished the western entrance, were in hand, for by April 1st, Jean Tijou "y<sup>e</sup> ffrench Smith" had received three payments of £13 6s. 8d. each "upon his bargain about the Iron gates and Palisade." The design was simple, with little of the foliage and embossed work which we find so abundantly in Tijou's work at Hampton Court and St. Paul's. It is said in the latest Chatsworth guide that the then gates now fill the left-hand archway of the nineteenth century approach. But in Kip's view (Fig. 10) there is an overthrow, and probably Tijou concentrated on that. He received in all £80 for his share, all the simpler forging of gate and palisade being done by an English smith named Marshall. He worked at Chatsworth, but made one journey to London, probably to see Tijou, who, however, paid a visit to Chatsworth in the spring of 1687. Kip shows the clairvoyée running between the monumental posts (Fig. 9), which still occupy much the same position, though placed on a higher level when the sixth Duke changed the entrance way into a raised terrace. William Talman, who had already been employed by Lord Kingston at Thoresby, which is not far from Hardwick, spent part of this year's

spring and autumn at Chatsworth, as the following entry shows:

1687. September: Itm paid for Mr. Talmans diet at Chatsworth 4 weeks 4 days in Aprill & three weeks in August as by the bill appears (besides strong beer) the summ of five pounds seventeen shillings & a penny.

By the latter month Jackson, the master mason, had already been paid £1,000, and a payment of £200 had been paid to a joyner. He there appears as William Lobb, but future payments are made to Henry Lobb and Robert Owen, called "the London Joyners," who do not begin to be employed until the following year, when other craftsmen make their

appearance, such as "Henry Margotts the Plaisterer" and "John Cork the Plummer." The first artist to be employed was Caius Cibber, the Danish sculptor, who had studied in Rome and settled in England about the time of the Restoration. He will have been recommended by Talman, who had employed him at Thoresby, and in answer to Lord Devonshire's enquiry, writes that he received £140 for sculpturing the "flat figures" in the pediment at Thoresby and £5 apiece for a dozen Caesar heads, and adds:

My Lord did pay for my board and wine for me and my man and then I did two Sphinxes at ten pound a piece, having in them but 3 quarters of a tun. For two statues as big as the life I had thirty five pounds a piece and all charges born. And at this rate I will doe my endeavour to serve any nobleman in freestone.

Though not specially mentioned in the accounts, the



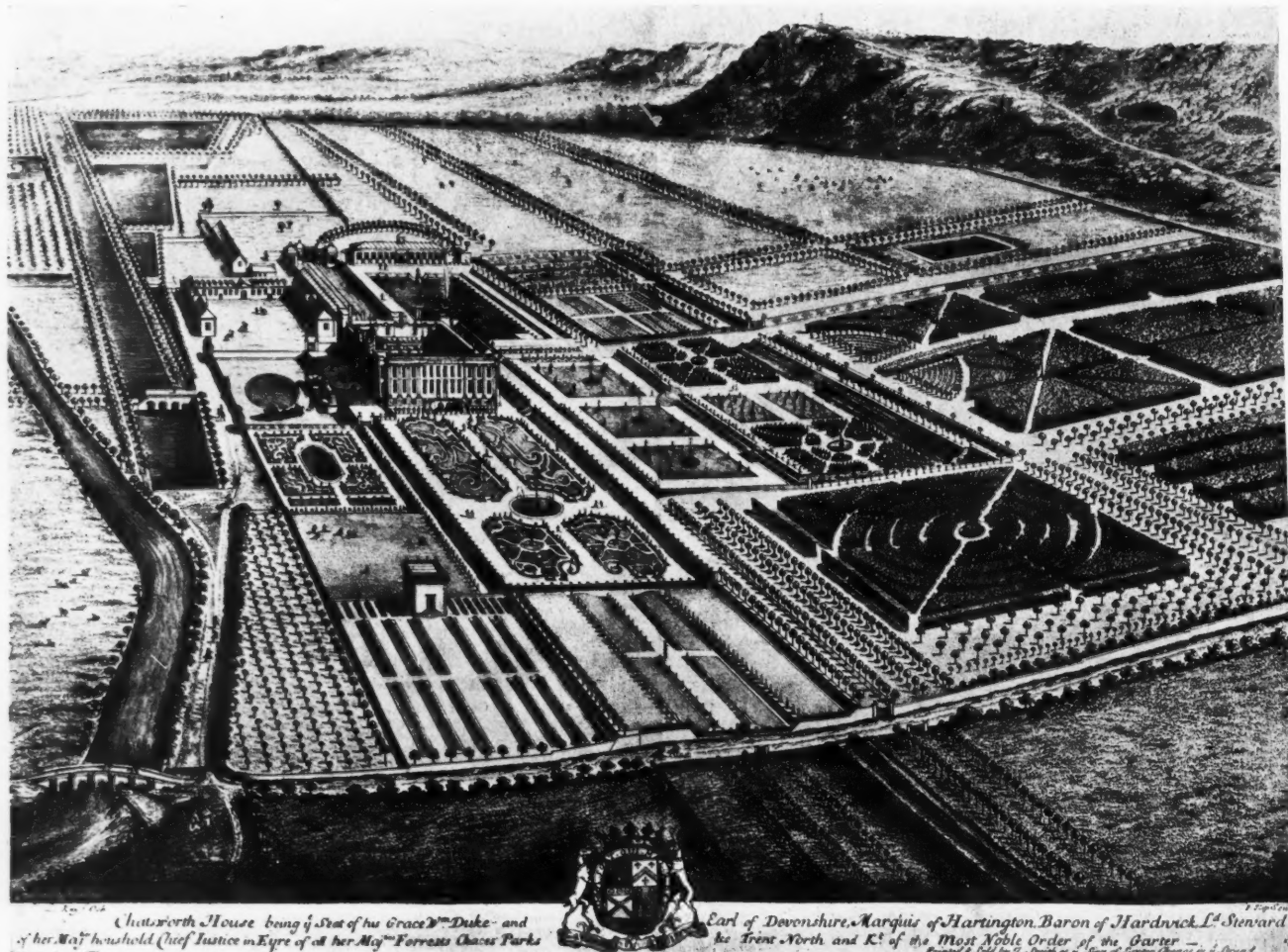
9.—One of the great piers, originally terminating the forecourt clairvoyée.



sphinxes on the terminal posts of the palisade at Chatsworth were certainly by him; but his first work there, for which he received £100 from March to July, 1688, is set down as "making 3 figures viz<sup>t</sup> Pallas, Juno & a Triton." The "Triton fountain" still exists in the parterre before the south elevation. Garden work was begun that autumn, when payments are first made "to Mr. George London upon his bargain for making a new Garden at Chatsworth." London and Wise, authors of "The Compleat Gardener" and founders of the Brompton Park Nursery, were praised by Evelyn for "their industry, knowledge of Nature and genius of Soils." They were the chief English garden designers of their day, Wise having charge of the Royal Gardens under Queen Anne.

Thus we see that much had already been done at Chatsworth before William III's advent to the throne. Hardwick, more often than Chatsworth, was the Derbyshire headquarters of the family during the rebuilding, as the destruction of the south side of the Elizabethan house and the presence of so many workmen will not have added to the comfort of

by Mr. Price and John Cook, his man, becomes increasingly busy as time goes on. The London joiners get £850, most of which is paid in London, but some to their men at Chatsworth who are no doubt fixing the elaborate woodwork, which is then to be further enriched by Thomas Young, who in October has William Davis helping him to carve. The Earl and his family make a long stay in Derbyshire lasting from July to November, and spent partly at Chatsworth and partly at Hardwick, "my lady" sojourning a while at Buxton "with company." Next year she reached Hardwick in June, and the steward's accounts, ranging from £13 to £83 weekly, show that the family remained there till the following October year, when, on the news that William III's Irish campaign had closed with the fall of Limerick, there was "given by my hon<sup>ble</sup> Lord's order to drink at the Bonfire" the modest sum of ten shillings. Before a move back to London was made in November a week was spent at Chatsworth, where the south side (Fig. 6) was nearing completion. Bishop Kennet tells us that this was the only part which the Earl originally intended to rebuild. He



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10.—KIP'S BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE GARDENS OF OLD CHATSWORTH.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

the place. That accounts for Talman, who, in 1688, spent all July and half September at Chatsworth, going over for a day or two to Hardwick on each occasion to confer with his client. But five weeks were spent at Chatsworth by the family in the autumn when the considerable sum laid out on the purchase of additional horses and the very expensive journeys to Derby and Nottingham in November may have had something to do with the Prince of Orange's intended Yorkshire landing in that month. That is the only indication of the Revolution which the accounts betray. The expenditure in London and in Derbyshire, both for ordinary maintenance and for the great building work, flows steadily on without a ripple.

With the year 1689 the decorative phase sets in. By June of that year as much as £300 had been sent to London to pay "Mr. Johnson for Glasse," implying that the whole new building was covered in and glazed. As early as January the names of Thomas Young, the carver, and M. Ricard, the painter, appear on the accounts. Laguerre soon follows, and receives £185 during the year, while that rather mysterious artist the "wainscot painter," here represented

therefore wanted to put as much as possible into it. The Chapel, situate on the ground floor, is of two storey height, and therefore takes up 50ft. of what should have been the *piano nobile*, as adopted by the English imitators of Palladio. Instead of an "attic," therefore, a second storey even more lofty than the first was designed for the suite of five State rooms. Talman is taken to task by Mr. Blomfield in his "Renaissance Architecture in England" for making an inconvenient and wasteful plan, and an elevation that "misses the happy grace of Wren." Most certainly Talman is not on Wren's level, but it must be remembered that at Chatsworth, his only remaining important work, he had not a free hand. He was asked to build on the foundations of one side of a quadrangular Elizabethan house, and he had to place rooms of great height on a second floor, instead of having an "attic" balancing a low ground floor and contrasting with the *piano nobile*. Thus both ground and first floors look a little crushed. The west side (Fig. 1) is better because it is on a lower level, and the ground floor is consequently higher out of the ground, while the retention of the sashbars gives it the right original feeling and does not throw

the huge keystones into so much prominence as does the sixth Duke's unhappy change to plate glass on the south side. The adoption of a big scale, not only in keystones and size of window, but in all the details and carving, was probably intended by Talman to compensate for the height of his second floor, and was a not unwise solution of a difficult problem. He had not a delicate and instinctive sense of right proportion, but he would have made a design less open to criticism had he been told to replace Bess of Hardwick's house by an entirely new one. Chatsworth is a fine and consistent pile, dignified in its lines and in the large scale and bold execution of its occasional ornament, the excellence, both in tone and texture, of the local stone being of enormous assistance in producing this effect. Although Talman is admittedly the architect, there has always been an effort to connect his great contemporary with the design. "Probably under the supervision of Sir Christopher Wren" is the Guide Book's way of putting it. There seems no authority for this surmise. Nor is there any proof that he "came down and surveyed the works," although he undoubtedly was concerned in the survey that was made of the south side when it was nearing completion. The Earl of Devonshire was by no means a man of unlimited wealth. There were no Yorkshire, Irish, Chiswick and Eastbourne estates belonging to the Cavendishes in his day. Derbyshire was the most important source of his income at a time when its mineral wealth was not developed and when rents were low. The whole of James Weldon's receipts for the three years ending Michaelmas, 1694, amounted to no more than £21,008 15s. 6½d. This had to suffice for large remittances to the Earl in London as well as for the rebuilding of Chatsworth and the upkeep of Hardwick. Money went far then, but yet he had to maintain a tight hold on expenditure. Indeed, Bishop Burnet calls him "of nice honour in everything but the paying of his tradesmen." Nothing of that appears in Wheldon's accounts. Payments to all seem made regularly and punctually. But the master's marginal notes show that his eye is open against overcharge. "I have seen this but am not satisfyd till I see y<sup>e</sup> particulars of y<sup>e</sup> small bills" is the note at the end of one of the half-yearly accounts. "Where has a joiner employed 7 pairs of hinges? Let the smith be abated 6d. a pair for all hinges"; "I would see y<sup>e</sup> whole sum y<sup>e</sup> Country Smith has received for hinges," are among his remarks. No wonder, then, that he was particular in having all work measured up and valued. In 1691 £50 had been paid in London to "Mr. ffort the King's Joyner for measuring & valueing the work at Chatsworth." The following May Ben. Jackson the mason receives £5 to bear his charges to Chatsworth when he came down with the "Measurers," and the next item shows us that these measurers were Edward Strong, chief of Sir Christopher's masons at St. Paul's, and Hugh Webb, one of the principal joiners who were at that very moment preparing the woodwork in the cathedral choir which Grinling Gibbons was to begin adorning with his carvings three years later. Among the Watson papers at Chatsworth is a copy of the valuation which Strong and Webb signed, and to which Wren appended a letter. No doubt Lord Devonshire had consulted Wren, who named the two experts for the job, received their report and endorsed their verdict. But this does not necessarily mean that he went to Derbyshire, and still less that he supervised Talman. There may, however, have been some little friction between architect and client, and when it was decided to follow on with the work of reconstruction and rebuild the east side Talman must have arranged that the construction should be done for a fixed sum, which he was to receive and of which the first payment of £600, made on July 2nd, 1693, is thus entered:

By money delivered to Mr Willm Talman by my honble Lords order according to the Articles for building up the East side & North East Corner of Chatsworth house this being y<sup>e</sup> first payment beforehand.

A further £498 was handed to him at the end of September, he "having finished the Vault & the Walls thereof." The last payment, made in March, 1695, brought up the total to £2,248.

Meanwhile, garden making was going on apace. Describing what he saw before the fourth Earl succeeded, Charles Cottin mentions "stately gardens" on the south side, and declares:

'Tis now adorned with Fountains and Cascades  
Terrass on terrass with their stair-cases  
Of brave and great contrivance, and to these  
Statues, Walks, Grass-plats and a Grove indeed  
Where silent lovers may lie down and bleed.

All this had gradually to be recast on a greater and more formal scale. We have seen London and Wise beginning

operations in 1688, and in 1690 they are paid for "Greens and other trees for the new garden." Cibber is making "figures for the new Fountain" and Mont. Huid is painting "y<sup>e</sup> Landskip in the Garden." John Rea in his "Complete Florilege," published soon after the Restoration, recommends as a proper garden feature a "Somershouse roofed everyway and finely painted with Landskips and other Conceits," while Evelyn when abroad saw much of this sort of work and was "infinitely taken with the agreeable cheate" of an "Arch of Constantine painted on a wall in oyle," the landscape seen through it being so cleverly represented that swallows dashed themselves against it. Though the English climate was so ill suited to this decorative mode that it was never widely adopted, Chatsworth had several examples. The "Perspective" that a Mr. Birchot painted in 1698, and which needed preparatory mason's work, must have been of the type praised by Evelyn, and was situate at "Holms Lane," which Kip's bird's-eye view (Fig. 10) shows dividing the south garden from the levelled ground and lines of trees beyond. Kip engraved from drawings made by Knyff, and accordingly we find in 1700 both the latter and "Mr. Ciberis" receiving payments "on Account for takeing y<sup>e</sup> Prospect of Chatsworth." House and gardens are therefore represented as they were at that date. Tijou's "palisade" and Cibber's sphinxes enclose a forecourt, and a chariot is about to deposit its occupants at the foot of the grotto and stairway (Fig. 3) that support the terrace in front of the west side which is still Elizabethan and shows the rising turrets of the gate-house. Ben. Jackson, the mason, began work on the terrace and its walls as early as the autumn, 1696, but was still receiving payments on that account in January, 1699. He seems to have left the job incomplete, for in 1700 Mr. Nadauld is paid for "finishing some frost work that was formerly begun by Mr. Jackson" and also for "Carving 2 Busto Heads set in the Neeches upon the Staircase before y<sup>e</sup> West front." They have the same "frost work," dripping from head and beard, that spreads over the surfaces on each side of them and on the pilasters of the retaining wall where the grotesque masks in the panels were carved by Samuel Watson of whom we shall hear more when describing the State rooms. The stables seen lying north of the forecourt in Kip's view, but long ago swept away, were still in hand when Knyff drew his prospect, but the parterre and bowling green lying south of it were already complete. The bowling green house and retaining wall and also the parterre are costing money in 1693, and the mason is still getting paid in 1695. The bowling green house turns its back to you in Knyff's prospect, but seems identical with Flora's temple (Fig. 8) erected on its present site at the north end of the great gravel walk above the east side of the house by the sixth Duke. Besides all the builder's work, London's men receive, during the second half of 1694, £500 for "making the new Parterre." At the same time money is sent to "Mr. Cornelius to buy trees in Holland." The cost of any but the limited varieties of trees and shrubs then common was high, especially if included in the category of "curious greens." Thus in March, 1696, £129 was spent in getting evergreens from various dealers "for the new Parterre," "Eughes & stript Hollys" being specially named. In the following year Mr. Wise gets £50 for "200 Yews Hollys & Juniper," while orange trees and myrtles are also obtained. The latter will have been for the "greenhouse" (Fig. 7) which was under construction in 1696 and 1697. For the most part it remains as it was except that the central opening between the columns was filled in under the Paxton regime, and the curious scroll balustrade with busts carved by Nadauld was then moved on to it from one of the galleries over the colonnades which ran along the north and south sides of the house quadrangle, and were replaced by three-toried corridor buildings by the sixth duke. Although Paxton put a new glass roof on to the greenhouse, it appears—unlike most orangeries of its day—to have had one from the first, as we read of "Straw Matts to cover the Glass roof of y<sup>e</sup> Orange house"; while screens are mentioned, which were probably used to fill in the central opening in winter. The greenhouse is omitted in Kip's view, as also is the water temple (Fig. 5) at the head of the cascade, although the cascade is indicated. References to the cascade begin early, but the only item I have found directly bearing on the temple is later than Knyff's visit. In the year 1703 £40 are paid to Mr. Nadauld "for carving the Figure Fluvius, two Dolphins and two Vases for y<sup>e</sup> Cascade." He did much sculpturing at Chatsworth, having a special shed erected to work in. "Two Rivers," also mentioned may be the side recumbent figures on the cascade temple, Fluvius being in the middle and the Dolphins between the twin pilasters of the front.



A special retaining pond was made on the high ground above to keep up the summer supply of water that flows out from the top of the dome, of which the exterior is lead covered in steps on purpose. The cascade is arranged in a long series of steps and slopes (Fig. 4), the fall being about 60ft. and the length 600ft. It then disappears into an underground culvert constructed in 1704 to take the water to the canal. The abundant high level supply of water made Chatsworth an admirable place for all the water effects which Henry Wootton and John Evelyn had so warmly advocated after their Italian visits. The French water engineer, Grilly, was employed at Chatsworth as well as at Bretby in

the same county. Tricks were not omitted, and hence the willow tree which suddenly dripped water from every leaf on to the unwary stranger, while surrounding jets spurted up at him. It is in 1693 that Mr. Ibert has £60 "in part of payment for an artificial tree of brass for a Fountaine," and soon after Pidcock the plumber makes a lead basin for "the Willow Tree fountain." Ibert has to repair it more than once, and in 1700 "8 Neeches" are set up as an ornamental environment. The whole was in decay when Paxton re-arranged and extended the gardens. The willow tree was practically re-made and set up in its present place.  
H. AVRAY TIPPING.

## LITERATURE

### A BOOK OF THE WEEK

The English Sonnet. by T. W. H. Crosland. (Martin Secker.)

**A**FTER much noisy faring up and down the surface of the earth Mr. Crosland has written a very fine book, vigorous, thoughtful, unconventional. It is not flawless and will not command universal agreement. No human being with the merest rudiment of a mind could possibly endorse all Mr. Crosland has to say upon any imaginable subject! But he has got to the root of the matter in his endeavour to strip his subject of the technical details past which scarcely any of his predecessors have penetrated and gauges the real poetic significance of the sonnet, while still insisting on the canons of the art.

It is not indigenous to this country, but a child of adoption from Italy's Petrarch. The sonnet is a favourite with beginners, who appear to regard it as a feat of ingenuity like the Easter Wings of George Herbert or certain strictly modelled but light French forms. It has a prescribed length of fourteen lines divided into the Octet, or first eight lines, and the Sestet, or last six lines. The lines are iambic in character and the rhymes arranged to a rule. At a first glance young, undisciplined genius revolts at a machinery designed as of set purpose to curb and harness the roving spirit. But time mellows this antipathy and the return basket is filled with rejected sonnets. If Mr. Crosland had looked a little deeper than he has done into the matter he would have seen that the oft-quoted defence of Wordsworth is very near to what he himself tries to express:

Scorn not the Sonnet; Critic, you have frowned,  
Mindless of its just honours; with this key  
Shakespeare unlocked his heart; the melody  
Of this small lute gave ease to Petrarch's wound;  
A thousand times this pipe did Tasso sound;  
With it Camões soothed an exile's grief;  
The Sonnet glittered a gay myrtle leaf  
Amid the cypress with which Dante crowned  
His visionary brow; a glow-worm lamp  
It cheered mild Spenser, called from Faery-land  
To struggle through dark ways; and when a damp  
Fell round the path of Milton, in his hand  
The thing became a trumpet, whence he blew  
Soul-animating strains—alas, too few!

Mr. Crosland in his most aggressive mood calls this "stark apology and sheer whimper," and makes play with the succession of images applied by Wordsworth as if there were a confusion of metaphors in the same thing being apostrophised as a key, a melody, a pipe, a myrtle leaf, a lamp, and a trumpet—criticism equally ridiculous. The net deduction is that the sonnet is the form of verse most suitable for a terse, austere, exquisite rendering of a vision or a mood. And this absolutely agrees with the dictum that a sonnet "must be the evolution of *one* thought, *one* emotion, or *one* poetically apprehended fact." In style and matter a perfect beginning for a sonnet would be those two lines of Shakespeare which form the text of Mr. Crosland's sermon:

How far that little candle throws his beams:  
So shines a good deed in a naughty world.

The long string of other quotations from Shakespeare which have "not only a surface relationship with the sonnet, but also a relationship which is deep and intimate and philosophically demonstrable" leads nowhere. It means only that fine poetry in a play has an affinity with fine poetry in a sonnet. They are indeed one and the same. But it is interesting to test the author's judgment of comparatively recent sonnets by this Shakespearean "control." He describes the two lines accurately though loquaciously thus: "There is no embroidery, no fancy in the inventive sense of fancy, no word that of itself is 'magical,' no snare for the lesser emotions, and no striving after the achieved sublimity."

In the words we have used above the language is terse, austere, exquisite. Now let us look at the three which are given "for the purpose of illustrating the contemporary sonnet in its perfected form." First comes one of Alfred Austin, late poet laureate. We take the octet first:

Within the hollow silence of the night  
I lay awake and listened. I could hear  
Planet with punctual planet chiming clear  
And unto star, star cadencing aright.  
Nor these alone; cloistered from deafening sight,  
All things that are made music to my ear;  
Hushed woods, dumb caves, and many a soundless mere,  
With Arctic mains in rigid sleep locked tight.

These lines exhibit all the faults of which the model is free. Snares for the lesser emotions lurk in every line. The idea is a reminiscence and expression of

There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st  
But in his motion like an angel swings.

Who cares to be a verbal critic will dwell on the hackneyed feeble—forcible "Planet with punctual planet," "unto star, star cadencing," "cloistered" for hidden, and the other separate parts of a "fakement" done "according to the trick." The sestet is as follows:

But ever with this chant from shore and sea  
From surging constellation, humming thought,  
And Life through Time's stops blowing variously,  
A melancholy undertone was wrought;  
And from its boundless prison-house I caught  
The awful wail of lone Eternity.

The last line crowns the edifice. The blue pencil jumps to get at "awful" and "lone," seeing how much better is "the wail of Eternity"; but the adjectives were needed for the rhythm, and there you are! Not simple, not austere, not exquisite must be the verdict. Now let us look at the example from Meredith. For the convenience of the reader it is transcribed:

On a starred night Prince Lucifer uprose.  
Tired of his dark dominion swung the fiend  
Above the rolling ball in cloud part screened,  
Where sinners hugged their spectre of repose.  
Poor prey to his hot fit of pride were those.  
And now upon his western wing he leaned,  
Now his huge bulk o'er Africa careened,  
Now the black planet shadowed Arctic snows.

Soaring through wider zones that pricked his scars  
With memory of the old revolt from Awe,  
He reached a middle height, and at the stars,  
Which are the brain of heaven, he looked, and sank.  
Around the ancient track marched, rank on rank,  
The army of unalterable law.

On an earlier page Mr. Crosland quotes with approval the dictum of Coleridge that high poetry is impossible without the combination of poetry and doctrine. Meredith is enforcing the astronomer's moral that though we may go on explaining all the rest of the way, when we come to the stars in their courses marching in orderly procession up and down the fields of space, we meet with an expression of unalterable law which forces the conviction that there is a First Cause, an Omnipotent God in presence of whom the Powers of Evil are discomfited. A great thought, but not Mr. Meredith's own, or stated with simplicity, austerity or exquisiteness. The doctrine is there without the poetry. Lucifer Star of the Morning gazing down to-day on the rolling ball half-screened in cloud and discovering the world war might well set its unbridled horror against laws said to be unalterable only because they persist and are incomprehensible.

In regard to the third of the trio, one can only lift an eye of astonishment when asked to regard Mrs. Meynell's "Renouncement" as comparable with Wordsworth's

"Westminster Bridge." The latter is an imaginative description of sunrise in London as perfect as any Shakespearean description of dawn, while Mrs. Meynell's sonnet is but the work of a most accomplished student of verse. We hope

that all this argumentation will not impress the reader too much with the faults of the book, which in the main is as well considered as it is trenchant. The case against sonnet sequences could not have been more convincingly put.

## LONDON CROWDS

By T. BURKE.

WHAT does the Cockney's mind first register when, far from home, he visualises the London that he loves with the casual devotion of his type? To the serious tourist London is the shrine of England's history; to the ordinary artist, who sees life in line and colour, it is a city of noble or delicate "bits"; to the provincial it is a playground; to the business man, a market; but to the Cockney it is one big club, odorous of the goodly fellowship that blossoms from contact with humankind.

He does not think of a city of palaces, or serene architectural triumphs; of a huckster's mart or a playground. At the word "London" he sees people: the crowds in the Strand, in Walworth Road, Lavender Hill, Whitechapel Road, Camden Town High Street.

Your moods may be various, and London will respond. You may work, you may idly dream away the hours, or you may actively enjoy yourself in play; but if you wish that supreme enjoyment—the enjoyment of other people—then London affords opportunities in larger measure than any other city that I know.

I discovered the magic and allure of crowds when I was fourteen years old and worked as office-boy in those filthy alleys marked in the Postal Directory as "E.C." Streets and crowds became my refreshment and entertainment then, and their savour is not yet gone. I do not want the flowery mead or the tree-covered lane or the insect-ridden glade; and I hate that dreadful hollow behind the little wood. Give me six o'clock in the evening and a walk from the City to Oxford Circus, through the soft spring or the darkling autumn, with festive feet whispering all around you, and your heart filled with that grey-green romance which is London. Once out of Newgate Street and across Holborn Viaduct I was happy, for I was, so to speak, in a foreign country; so wholly different were the people of Holborn from the people of Cheapside. The crowds of the City had always, to me, a mean, craven air about them. They walked homeward with lagging steps and worn faces. They seemed always preoccupied with paltry problems. They carried the stamp of their environment: a dusty market-place, in which things made by more adept hands and brains are passed from wholesale place to wholesale place with sorry bargaining on the odd halfpenny.

But West and West Central were a pleasaunce of the finer essences, and involuntarily body and soul assumed an alert nonchalance, and one walked airily. There were noble shops, brilliant theatres, dainty restaurants, highways, whose sole business was pleasure, rent with gay lights, and oh! so many delightful people. At restaurant and theatre doors one might pause pensively and touch finger-tips, as it were, with rose-leaf grace and beauty and fine comradeship—or, at least, so it seemed to me, after encounters with the sordid and the uncouth in Gracechurch Street. Then, when the hoofs clattered and the motors hooted and the whistles blew, and streets were drenched with festal light and festal folk, I was, I felt, abroad. Figure to yourself that you are walking through the streets of Teheran, or Stamboul, or Moscow, surrounded by strange bazaars and people who seemed to have stepped from some book of magic, so far removed are they from your daily interests. So did I feel as I walked down Piccadilly.

My way to the City lay through Leicester Square, and the morning crowd in that quarter carries still the same charm. On a bright spring morning it might be Paris. There is a sense of space and sparkle about it. The little milliners' girls, in piquant frocks, evoke memories of Mimi Pinson, and the crowding curls on their cheeks waft a perfume of youth-time lyrics, chiming softly against the more strident and repulsively military garb of the girl porters and doorkeepers. The cleaners, bustling about the steps of the music-halls, throw adumbrations of entertainment on the morning streets. People are leisurely busy, in an agreeable way—not the huckstering E.C. way.

In Piccadilly Circus there is the same sense of light and song among the crowds emerging from the Tube. The shops are decked in all the colours of the Maytime, and not one little workgirl but pauses to throw a mute appeal to the posturing silks and laces, and pray that the lily-wristed, wanton damsel of Fortune will turn a hand in her direction.

But in the City, as I have said, there is little of this delight to be found, either at morning, noon, or night. The typical crowd of this district may be seen at London Bridge, where, from eight to half-past ten in the morning and from half-past five to half-past seven in the evening, the dispirited toilers swarm towards the South. Indeed, it is not a crowd: it is a *cortège* marching to the obsequies of hope and fear. It is a funeral march of a marionette. Here are no gay colours; no smiles;

no persiflage. All is sombre. Even the typists and the little workgirls make no effort towards bright raiment; all is dingy and soiled, not with the clean dirt that hangs about the barges and wharves on the river, but with the mustiness of old ledgers and letter files. Listless in the morning and taciturn in the evening are these people; and to watch them for an hour from the windows of the Bridge House Hotel is to suffer an attack of spiritual dyspepsia. For, among them, are men who have crossed that bridge twice daily for thirty years, walking always on the same side, always at the same pace, and arriving at the other end precisely at the same minute. There are men who began that daily journey with bright boyish faces, clean collars, and their first bowler hats, brave with the importance of working in the City. Their hearts were fired with dreams and ambition. They had heard tales of office boys who, by industry, had been taken eventually into partnership. They received their first rise. Later, they achieved the romantic riches of thirty shillings a week. They made the acquaintance of a girl in their suburban High Street. They married. And now, at forty-five, all ambition gone, they are working in the same murky corner of the same office, and maintaining wife and child on three pounds a week. Their trousers are frayed and bag at the knees. Their coats are without nap or grace. Two collars a week suffice. Gone are the shining dreams; they have "settled down" without being conscious of the fact, and will make that miserable journey, with other sombre and silent phantoms, until the end. Verily, the London Bridge crowd of respectables is the most tragic of all London crowds, and the bridge itself a *via dolorosa*.

I do not know how it is, but work in the City seems to achieve a far more deadening effect on the souls of the workers than work in other quarters. My personal experience confirms this, for I have worked in all quarters, and have noticed a curious change of outlook when I moved from the City to Fleet Street, or from Fleet Street to Piccadilly. You shall notice it, too, in the faces of the lunch-time crowds. East of St. Paul's, the note is apathy. Coming westward, only to Fleet Street, you perceive a change. Here boys and girls, men and women, seem to take an interest in things; one understands that they like their work. They do not regard it as a mere routine, to be dragged through somehow until the clock releases them.

Again, further eastward, in the factory districts of Bethnal Green, Bow and Stepney, the hands seem to be alive, whether they are going to or coming from work.

A similar study in crowd psychology awaits you at the Tube stations in the early hours of the evening, when the rush is on. With elbows wedged into your ribs, and strange hot breaths pouring down your neck, you need all the serenity you have stored against such contingencies; and the attitude of the other people about you can mitigate your distress or enhance it. The City and South London crowd is not the kind of crowd that can bear its own troubles cheerfully, or help others to bear theirs. I would never wish to go on a day's holiday with any of its people. Their composite frame of mind is one of weak anger, expressive of "Why isn't Something Done? What's the use of going on like this?"

How much more gracious the St. James's Park or Victoria crowd. From five to half-past six these stations receive a steady stream of sweet and merry little girls from the mushroom Government departments that have spawned all about this quarter. It is girls, girls, girls, all the way, with the feeble and the aged of the male species toiling behind.

On the Bakerloo you find a crowd that is—well, "rorty" is the only word. The people here are mostly south-bound for the Elephant and Castle; and you know the Elephant and Castle and its rich, vigorous life. There are bold youths who have not fallen, like their fathers, to the temptation of a collar-and-cuff job in the City, but have taken up the work that offers the best pecuniary reward. Grimy youths they are, but full of vitality, and they pour down the staircase in a Niagara of humanity.

An excellent centre for observing the varying moods of the evening crowd is Villiers Street, that gentle slope from which you may reach Charing Cross Station, the Hampstead Tube, the District Railway, or the Embankment trams. It is a finely mixed company, for, as any Londoner will tell you, the residents of the hundred suburbs differ from one another in manner, accent and appearance, even as the natives of different continents. Those who are using the Hampstead Tube are sharply marked from those who are taking the Embankment car to Clapham Junction, while those who are journeying on the South Eastern to Croydon have probably never heard of Upton Park,



whither the District will carry others. There are well dressed people and ill dressed people; some who are going home to soup, fish, a soufflé and coffee, with wine and liqueurs; and some who are going home to "tea," at about eight o'clock—bread-and-margarine and bloater paste, with a pint of tea, or, occasionally, a bit of tripe and onions. There are people in a mad hurry, and others who move in aloof idleness. And, above them all, stand the swart Colonials, waiting until 6.30, when the bars shall open, airily inspecting the troops of girls and comparing notes.

"Say now, jes' watch here. Here comes a Fanny."

"Ah, gwan. I ain' got no time fer Fannies. I finished wid 'em. Gimme beer, every time."

I have often wanted to make a song of Villiers Street, but have never been able to catch just the essence of its atmosphere. I am sure, though, that the modern orchestra offers opportunities for one of our new composers to embrace it in an overture. No effort has been made, so far as I know, to interpret in music the noisy soul of the London crowds. Elgar's "Cockaigne" overture and Percy Grainger's "Handel in the Strand" were both retrospective in spirit, and the real thing yet remains to be done. It has been done on the Continent by Suppé ("Morning, Noon and Night in Vienna"), by Sibelius in his "Finlandia," by Massenet in his "Southern Town," and by Dvorák in "Carneval Roman." I await with eagerness a "Morning, Noon and Night at Charing Cross," scored by a born Cockney.

## STARS OVER A BATTLEFIELD

### I.

Above the darkling battlefield the Night  
Swims in a mellow moon's enchanted light;  
The exact and mystic stars shine faintly bright.

The earth below looks void, a formless clod,  
As lonely a plain as ever shepherd trod;  
The starry Heavens declare the glory of God.

Ay, *Caeli enarrant*. . . . But Whose glory tell  
These earthborn stars that rise and blaze and swell  
And burst in shattering shock of bomb and shell?

These climbing rockets risen phantom-like  
Whose trembling blue illumines the mist-hung dyke  
And shows the hidden marksman where to strike?

These balls of flame that flash and fall and slay?  
—O God of Sirius, God of Hesper, say  
Are these of Thy permission, even as they?

### II.

Can He who framed the rhythmic skies  
And built the crystal's perfect plan  
Suffer the sight, the sounds, the cries  
Of this new Chaos made by Man?  
The hoarse cannon-thunder,  
The flames, the fountains of rent flesh and blood  
Flung up with stones and smoke and mud  
To mock the skies' pure wonder?

He, Whose unvanquishable Life  
In countless resurrection streams  
How can He let us waste in strife  
One generation's hopes and dreams? . . . .  
. . . . Alas! He is sleeping,  
Or gone on some long journey's endless quest;  
He hears us not. He takes His rest  
While half a world is weeping.

### III.

Thou that no carnal sense to Man reveals,  
Ungessed by aught that sees and hears and feels,  
Yet intimately known  
To all that, deep in each, remains Thine own;  
Is Flesh to Thee as incommunicable? . . . .  
Captain and captive, roar of bomb and shell?  
The piteous dead, deformed,  
Cut down, like weeds, where most the battle stormed;  
Wounded that cry for water in the flames;  
And dying men that murmur women's names;  
Are these a mist of dreams  
Through which the Soul in lonely splendour streams?

### IV.

Maybe the battle with its pangs and cries  
Is lovely, *effulgent*, even as the skies,  
Ordered in wealth of ardent sacrifice.  
And even the exact and patient stars that move  
Their mystic dance serenely bright above  
Appear less radiant to the Primal Love.

MARY DUCLAUX.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## LIQUID MANURE IS SOLID GOLD.

SIR,—The following analysis of the liquid manure used on Brattles Farm is sent by Miss Coats in the hope that it may be of use to those farmers who allow this valuable fertiliser to escape by the drains and so become lost to the land. How important it is comparatively few people realise. The estimated annual value of farmyard manure in Great Britain was in pre-war days about £11,000,000. That must be increased by at least 50 per cent. to-day. Yet the waste that goes on is appalling. "On an average," says Dr. Russell, "not more than half the full value is obtained. The tables for the estimation of the unexhausted values drawn up by Hall and Voelcker, and generally adopted by valuers, are based on the assumption that half of the nitrogen in the manure will probably be lost. Nor is this country alone in offending. The American Department of Agriculture estimated the value of the farmyard manure produced in the United States at more than 2,000,000,000 dollars, i.e., more than £400,000,000, of which more than one-third is wasted." It will be noticed that the annual loss of the United States in this respect is thought to be well over £130,000,000 annually. Here is the analysis, followed by some very practical remarks from Miss Coats, which ought to be taken to heart by every dairy farmer who has not yet realised the importance of the liquid manure that may ordinarily be seen escaping by a drain to the duck pond:

MISS COATS, BRENCHELEY, KENT.

2cwt. Nitrate of Soda (15.7 per cent. N.)	1,500 Gallons of
3cwt. 35 per cent. Superphosphate	Liquid
(16 per cent. P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	Manure
2cwt. Kainit (12 per cent. K <sub>2</sub> O)	
lb.	lb.
Nitrogen .. .. 35.2 .. .. 27.3	
Phosphoric acid (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ) .. .. 53.7 .. .. 2.5	
Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O) .. .. 26.9 .. .. 60.2	

### LIQUID MANURE FROM DAIRY FARMS.

1,000 gallons contains:

	Miss Coats, Brencley.	Hendrick.	Hoebridge.
	lb.	lb.	lb.
Nitrogen (N) ..	18.22 ..	20.5 ..	23.02
Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O) ..	40.14 ..	46.0 ..	—
Phosphate (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	1.68 ..	3.0 ..	—

It would be necessary to supplement the liquid manure by a dressing of superphosphate for any root crop.

December 22nd, 1917.

Analysis sent by Dr. Russell, Rothamsted Experimental Station.

Miss Coats says: "The analysis is much better than I expected, and 'n potash it is awfully high. Dr. Russell very kindly gave me two analyses, the first of which is really, in a sense, most useful. I asked him to compare it with the artificials I usually, before the war, gave my roots, viz., 3cwt. of superphosphate (35 per cent.), 2cwt. of kainit, and 2cwt. of nitrate of soda, as a comparison of that kind somehow explains more to the ordinary farmer who, probably, like myself, is deficient in scientific knowledge. You will see from the enclosed copies of Dr. Russell's analyses that my dressing of 1,500 gallons per acre represents more potash than the 2cwt. of kainit per acre. This is really of tremendous importance, as we have no source of potash at present available except in liquid manure." The analysis would vary

with the type, of course. In the case, for instance, of bullocks being fattened, the results would be different from those obtained with dairy cows.—X.

## FOOD PRODUCTION BY SOLDIERS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—There have been articles on this subject in some of your recent issues, so I write to say that there is nothing new in the suggestion, and send a short account of what has been done during 1917 at a large military station in the South-East of England. It must, however, be borne in mind that it is not likely to prove economical for land that otherwise would be properly cultivated to be handed over to soldiers by the tenants in the neighbourhood of military stations. Some, but not many, hutment camps are on War Department land, and here there is a large scope. At the station now under notice 105 acres have been cultivated during 1917. This is all War Department land, and represents odd fields and bits of waste land here and there that formerly have been derelict. No land required for training or drill purposes has been taken. The land has been divided up so that each unit has a portion, and is worked entirely by the men in their spare time and by convalescents under a central authority. The implements, seed, etc., were all provided by the Navy and Army Canteen Board, and the whole of the produce, except small saladings, was purchased from the troops by the same Board and re-issued as required as part of the rations. The net profits worked out at about £100 for each unit in the Command. The total amount of stuff grown was 400 tons of potatoes, many tons of other roots, and vast quantities of greenstuffs, of which there has been a continuous succession. All this has helped considerably in keeping down the prices of the local markets by removing the competition of a large body of men, as the potatoes, and to a large extent the other vegetables grown, have kept the troops entirely supplied since August to the end of the year. Half the ground is now stocked with winter and spring greens, and the rest has been ploughed and manured and is ready for the spring cropping.—L. N. H. D.

## FRUIT TREES FROM CUTTINGS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I trust that none of your readers will waste his time and garden in trying to raise apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches and nectarines from cuttings. With the exception of a few of the Codlin tribe of apples none of these will root in this way; and the reason that nurserymen bud or graft them is not because it is quicker, but because it is the only method. Currants and Gooseberries can be raised from cuttings quite successfully. The few apples that will root make very small stunted trees and would never grow up into standard trees, which are what are wanted in Belgium and France.—EDWARD A. BUNYARD.

## A CHRISTMAS CARD FROM THE FRONT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I have no doubt your readers have received many Christmas greeting cards from their friends at the front. I have received the enclosed from a friend in the 47th London Division. It gives a picture of what fighting at the front has been in 1917 and the hope of an honourable peace in 1918. It is one of the best cards I have seen, and it may possibly interest you to reproduce it, which I am sure my friends in the 47th London Division will be only too pleased for you to do. The card was, I believe, designed by a private soldier in the Division. I think you will agree with me that he is to be highly congratulated on his power as an artist.—H.



THE CHRISTMAS CARD OF THE 47TH LONDON DIVISION.



## HIS MONUMENT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—This photograph is of the grave of a priest at Kilmurphy. The huge pile of jars, cups, egg-cups, bottles and so on have been brought there with holy water in them and left by the countryfolk, who looked upon their priest as a saint. You will note the beads on the top of the headstone and the little images at the foot; these are also offerings at the good man's grave. His people still tear pieces from their clothes and leave them there or hang them on the trees near by; but that is a usual practice in Ireland at holy places or places of special interest, such as wishing wells.—E. W. W.



TOKENS OF REGARD.

told disaster of some sort. I once lived near a large wood, and such sounds were to be heard on most nights when a gentle wind was blowing; and it was said by my own people that the crying and wailing sounds were caused by the bare branches of the oak and the ash—in particular the latter—grating together in the wind. I have noticed that ash trees give out uncanny sounds, which might be mistaken for owl cries or the wailing of an infant. Such noises may well have given rise to many of the uncanny stories which haunt the countryside, dark survivals of an older day still fearsome to the descendants of those who first believed them. This tree calling unto tree in the night season may account for most of the fearful sounds heard in the night-time.—THOMAS RATCLIFFE.

## A TAME HORNBILL.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—This photograph of a perfectly tame hornbill may be of interest to your readers. She follows me wherever I go, and although the jungle is within a few hundred yards, she never has any inclination to return to it.—EVELYN SHILLITOE, Pahang, F.M.S.



THE FRIENDLY HORNBILL.

[Cauliflowers need protection and we have found the following plan to answer well. Before severe frost has had time to damage the centre take all the leaves in both hands, draw them upwards to a point, and tie them tightly at the top with bast or string. This forms a roof over them which keeps both frost and rain from injuring the heads. There is no occasion to remove the plants from the places in which they are growing.—Ed.]

## TREE NOISES IN THE NIGHT-TIME.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—At this season of the year the leafless trees make strange noises during the night-time which often raise superstitious fears among folks living along the countryside, and one will tell another that "Gabriel Hounds" or that "Gabbil Ralchebs" were out last night, a sound which fore-

## ZULU RICKSHAW MEN.

[THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—Perhaps these photographs of two of the rickshaw men who ply for hire between our camp and the nearest town will be of interest to your readers. This is my first experience of South Africa, as it is of others of my friends now in the King's Service, and we have had fine fun with these rickshaws. The camp is two and a half miles outside the town, but these "hefty" Zulus make nothing of the journey. Their remarkable head-dresses of such things as horns, feathers, long porcupine quills, animal skins, long grasses, etc., are a wonderful and mirth-provoking sight, many of them being even larger than those worn by the gentlemen in the pictures.—H.



THE RICKSHAW MAN WITH HIS RICKSHAW.



A WONDERFUL HEAD-DRESS.

## IMPROVING FRUIT TREES.

[THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—I would be ever so much obliged if you could tell me something about the following and how to remedy them. I have had some plum trees for about five years and they have never had any fruit on them; they are facing a southern aspect. I was told by a friend to put some lime round the roots of the trees; was I right in doing so or not? I have also a trained pear tree which bears a few small fruits the size of a plover's egg which are always as hard as iron. Should I prune it hard or leave it as it is? Also I have some apple trees about ten years old that have never borne fruit, but this year they had an abundant supply of leaves. What shall I do with them?—F. O. DOHERTY.

[Lime is of the first importance to plum trees, without it they pine away. Our correspondent has doubtless been well advised to give the plum trees a dressing of lime, and we hope that good results may follow. We do not advise hard pruning, for plum trees resent the knife more than any other kind of fruit tree. As a rule they should be left unpruned. The pear in our correspondent's garden is obviously a worthless variety, but instead of grubbing it up we suggest regrafting a good variety, such as Doyenne du Comice, Williams' Bon Chrétien, Conference or Jargonelle, on to the old shoulders. The branches should be shortened now, prior to the final cutting back at the time of grafting. The scions or grafts should be cut from a tree of the variety selected within the next month and well healed in under a north wall. If our correspondent is unable to carry out this interesting work we suggest the assistance of a gardener. If the apple trees are growing vigorously they want root pruning. This should be done without delay. Commence by taking out a trench 2ft. wide half way round the tree at a distance of 2ft. to 3ft. from the stem. Any thick roots that are encountered should be cut off with a sharp knife. When the trench is 18ins. deep delve under the tree and cut through any thick roots that may have found their way into the subsoil. After this is done the trench may be filled in. Mix lime rubble with the soil and see that the soil is well rammed as the work of filling in proceeds. It is possible that the trees are not getting sufficient light; this could best be ascertained by an inspection on the spot.—Ed.]

## PROTECTING CAULIFLOWERS FROM FROST AND RAIN.

[TO THE EDITOR.]

SIR,—I have a promising lot of cauliflowers and would be glad to know the best way of protecting them from hard weather.—E. S., Bucks.